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17 October 1984

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ASEAN: DEVELOPMENT MODEL WITH HANDICAPS

Bonn AUS POLITIK UND ZEITGESCHICHTE in German 18 Aug 84 pp 3-16

[Article by Ruediger Machetzki, research associate at Institute for Asian Studies, Hamburg. Text is an abstract published together with full text of original]

[Text] After one and a half decades of successful economic development and high industrial growth, the six noncommunist ASEAN countries in Southeast Asia have, as it were, been defined as a "model region" of the Third World, a region that has attracted the increasing interest of Western economic researchers and experts. In view of the indisputably successful course, however, there are now tendencies both within and outside ASEAN to underestimate the limits and problems of a further uninterrupted development.

For one thing, the ASEAN members--so-called threshold countries of the second generation--still lack adequate internal developmental vigor to be able to have self-supporting growth. They will continue to be dependent upon the capacity and willingness of the large industrial markets--not least of which is Western Europe--to absorb their products. In the second place, the community will have a relatively narrow framework for actual economic cooperation in the future as well. In view of the great parallelism of the individual ASEAN economies and the resulting competitive situation, the inevitable signs of strain can be kept under control only through considerable political pragmatism and flexibility. Political flexibility has heretofore been one of the main characteristics of the community. Thirdly, in view of their considerable encumbrances, including rapid population growth, rising employment requirements, increasing costs of rural modernization and the provision of basic needs, the ASEAN countries will have to achieve overall growth rates on the order of 10 percent. The prospects for this, especially at the international level, have not improved relative to the 1970's.

Despite these basic handicaps, the chances for the ASEAN countries to develop into industrialized economic and affluent societies appear to be more favorable than for most of the Third World countries.

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CSO: 4620/60

PAPER REPORTS HOLDEN TRADE DEAL WITH NISSAN

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by Mike Kable]

[Text] GENERAL Motors-Holden's Pty Ltd (GM-H) is to sell more than 20,000 four-cylinder engines a year to its new partner, Nissan, in a two-way trade arrangement between the companies.

They will power the look-alike Nissan Pulsar and Holden Astra from the end of next year when the Holden Commodore switches to imported six-cylinder Nissan engines.

The 1.6-litre fours, which will be modified to run on lead-free petrol, are the same as those used in the Holden Camira and exported to General Motor's West German Opel and British Vauxhall subsidiaries, for use in their corresponding medium-sized "world concept" cars.

Positive

GM-H has built about 500,000 engines since its \$300 million, highly automated plant at Fishermans Bend, Melbourne, opened in 1981.

Nissan's contract will involve supplying more than 60,000 Japanese-built engines a year to GM-H if the Commodore maintains its sales momentum.

The reciprocal move by GM-H escaped attention when the company's managing director, Mr Chuck Chapman, confirmed speculation last week about the Commodore's engine swap. He said the swap was necessitated by regula-

tions which would require all new cars built after January 1 1986 to use lead-free petrol.

Mr Chapman said in a questions-and-answers session at the Astra's release to the press that GM-H was negotiating to sell four-cylinder engines to Nissan.

However, his prepared statement was much more positive.

It said that GM-H was negotiating a mutually-advantageous component and engine-sharing program with Nissan.

"The purchase of engines by GM-H will be part of a two-way trade arrangement in

components that will see the facilities of the two groups being more effectively utilised," he said.

"GM-H will benefit from this as it will increase production of our high-technology engines and increase the total domestic sales of our Australian product.

"Job security at Fishermans Bend will benefit from this progressive trade arrangement and the aims of the Government's new motor vehicle plan will be assisted."

Mr Chapman said GM-H would also supply engine castings and sheet metal components.

Expansion of component sales could create more job opportunities at GM-H.

The company, despite shutting down its six-cylinder engine plant, will continue to be Australia's largest engine manufacturer.

Adoption of the 1.6-litre engine will give GM-H and Nissan a marketing advantage in engine capacity over the Pul-

sar and Astra's arch rival, Ford's 1.5-litre Laser.

Ford has dominated the small car market since the Laser was launched in 1981, but it is in danger of being toppled next year by combined sales of the Pulsar and Astra.

GM-H will also have a greater diversity of cars than Ford when it releases a new front-wheel-drive Gemini sedan next year, in addition to importing a Holden-badged version of the Suzuki Swift hatchback, which should be one of the cheapest cars available.

The extensive export credits GM-H is achieving from the four-cylinder engine and Camira wagon body components being shipped to the UK will enable it to land the Swift duty-free.

So the Swift, which GM sells in the US with Chevrolet badges, will be a profitable proposition for GM-H, which has incurred losses totalling \$350 million in recent years.

CSO: 4200/1076

EDITORIAL SUMMARIZES STONE BUDGET CRITICISM

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 29 Aug 84 p 6

[Editorial: "The Moral Gospel According to Stone"]

[Text] .MOST of Australia's major institutions got a spray from John Stone in his Edward Shann memorial lecture. It was an acerbic, eloquent and over-stated attack - but nevertheless the sort of speech we need from time to time to shake us out of the lethargic acceptance, of well-intentioned policies from mediocre minds, that prevents us from achieving our confidently stated aims.

To start with, he drew attention to the peculiarity of the present international recovery - commodity markets are not showing a comparable upswing. In this vital respect the recovery seems to differ from any of its counterparts in the post-war period.

Mr Stone says this is disturbing as Australia still depends upon primary commodities to obtain roughly two-thirds of its export income, without which past debts cannot be serviced or imports paid for (other than by borrowings).

Industry

Given this situation, it is dangerous for us to embark now on high levels of expenditure without being more certain of our future levels of income. As Dr Gerard Henderson, private secretary to John Howard, said in *The Weekend Australian*, you can only end a drought once.

This is all the more reason to concern ourselves with what we are doing with our city-based industries, which once used to generate a decent part of our export income.

Mr Stone takes a very strong anti-protectionist stance while at the same time lashing the roles of trade unions and arbitration commissions in the decline of many of our industries. What he fails to do is to recognise the need for minimum levels of local industry protection while the union-caused cost problem is dealt with.

No-one in Australia today seriously believes inefficient, outdated industries should be propped up by the Government and the consumer. However, when you get to the stage of having some of the most modern factories in the world that still cannot exist without protection, it is crazy to force their closure.

There will be many "hear, hears" to Mr Stone's forthright remarks on trade unions. He is perfectly right to say that Australia "cannot borrow its way out of the unemployment which was inflicted upon our country in 1974-75, and again in 1982-83, by a few particularly greedy and ignorant trade union leaders, abetted in some degree by some of their business counterparts and, not least, by the arbitral tribunals".

Deathly silence

Of course the Economic Summit was all about wages, wages, wages and not jobs, jobs, jobs. And the real level of unemployment may well be more than 11 per cent of the workforce.

What landmark speeches such as Mr Stone's do is to throw into question the false moral argument that the very policies he is castigating have right on their side. Far too few of our community and business leaders are prepared to put persuasively the moral arguments against what we are doing.

But Mr Stone is wrong to speak of the industrial philosophies of Fascism. What is at fault is rather the acceptance of a sort of wet, misguided Fabianism under which we assume moral right to all that trade unions do and moral wrong to all done by those who employ. The moral arguments for free enterprise have gone more by default than by proven wrong-doing.

For instance, employers who acted disgracefully in their treatment of long-serving workers being retrenched during the recession brought upon themselves the recent legal moves to force retrenchment notice and adequate compensation. But on the other side, the gangster-like tactics of the BLF and bloody-minded inter-union battles go unchecked and unpunished by governments and industrial courts.

The amount of bad behavior by employers in these enlightened and regulated days is so low it does not justify the draconian and blackmail-like powers given to trade unions. This applies particularly to unions which in their operations have reduced job opportunities, especially to the young, and threatened the standard of living which the trade unions are supposed to protect.

But in the community at large there is little questioning debate on what is morally right or wrong.

Unemployment

As Mr Stone says, our system of wage determination today constitutes a crime against society. There is also telling criticism in his words: "There is no single fact more disgraceful than the manner in which we have permitted – and are still permitting – more than 25 per cent of 15 to 19-year-olds to be unemployed."

There is far too little debate in Australian society on the futures of ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. The establishment institutions need constant criticism, and not only from Mr Stone, for opting out of the debate – such as it is!

Mr Stone speaks of Edward Shann's career testifying to the fundamental importance of civilised discussion within a free society. He also speaks of Shann's deep, but quiet, love of country.

Most importantly he says Shann saw clearly the inextricable linkages between government intervention and the diminution of both individual and more general liberty.

It is more the pity that we cannot say that these things are clearly seen today. If anything, they have become more blurred by the paucity of intellectual debate in Australia. Debate on who we are, what we want to be and the values that we wish to hold.

The greatest service Mr Stone has given by his address is to make us more aware of this failing. It will take many more Stone-like addresses before there is sufficient opinion coming from our general community to influence our law-makers and politicians. But it is a start.

CONDITIONS RIGHT FOR JAPANESE DOMINATION OF LOCAL INVESTMENTS

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 30 Aug 84 p 13

[Article by Reg Hall]

[Text] Japanese investment in Australian bond markets could amount to \$500 million annually within a year if Japanese institutions' growth patterns are maintained.

This projection was made at the Australian Japan Economic Institute conference in Sydney yesterday by Mr Norm Oakes, secretary and comptroller of accounts of the NSW Treasury.

Mr Oakes based his forecast on the current level of Japanese bond investment — about \$3.1 billion — and the assumption that Japanese life offices will continue to grow at 13 per cent per annum.

The message from the conference was that Japanese investment in Australia would rise in the 1980s as Australian companies and instrumentalities were forced to increasingly borrow from Japan as traditional sources of capital from the US, UK and Europe dried up.

The investment is likely to take place in both equity and fixed interest markets as the giant Japanese institutions and investors look for profitable investments overseas.

Mr Yuichi Sakai, vice president foreign investment department of the Meiji Mutual Life Insurance Co, said that there were good opportunities for Japanese investment in Australia.

Australia had one of the highest credit ratings, along with the US and Canada. It provided stable investment conditions with safety, which was a key requisite of the life insurance companies, he added.

The basic strategy of the life offices was to invest in high quality bonds with good yields, although Australia needed to increase the liquidity of its bonds to make them more attractive to overseas investors.

Mr Michio Nakayama, director general of the Research Institute of Overseas Investment of the Export-Import Bank of Japan, said that there would be a continuing expansion in Japan's role as an international financial market.

Exim's role was to complement — not compete — with other institutions. Mr Shigeki Matsumoto, general manager of the international division of the the Nikko Research Centre, believed that Japanese equity investors would be mainly interested in Australian resources stocks.

Australia had a wealth of resource stocks not available in the Japanese market. An added advantage for Japanese investors to go overseas was that the yen had stopped appreciating.

Mr Matsumoto surprised the conference when he predicted in no uncertain terms a new bull market on Wall Street starting in the spring.

The thought heartened Mr Ray Craig, deputy general manager and chief manager investments of the AMP Society. He said that where Japanese life offices were more geared to fixed interest investment, Australian institutions were much more adventurous.

He saw opportunities for local life funds to invest in the Japanese market's high technology industries.

CSO: 4200/1076

PRIME MINISTER SHOWS UNHAPPINESS WITH HAYDEN

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Aug 84 p 3

[Article by Paul Ellercamp]

[Text] **THE** Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, yesterday indicated his unhappiness with the Foreign Minister, Mr Hayden, who raised the racism and immigration issue again in Parliament last week.

And he held out an olive branch to the Federal Opposition, saying he accepted they did not want to make racism and immigration an issue in the campaign.

Mr Hawke said on Channel Nine's Sunday program that Mr Hayden had made the attack in a way "which perhaps I think on reflection he would feel was not the best way of doing it".

He added: "I haven't spoken with Bill. I think Bill is an intelligent man and I think his feelings will guide him on this matter — that it may have been an unwise course of action."

Mr Hawke accepted that the Opposition has put the issue behind it. "I accept that. That's the way that they want it — that they don't want race as an issue in the election.

"I have never wanted it and I think it's best for everyone if that's the way it be left now."

Mr Hawke thus revealed an impact on his thinking of the powerful speech on immigration which the deputy Opposition leader, Mr Howard, made to Parliament after the issue was raised by Mr Hayden last Wednesday.

CSO: 4200/1076

HAWKE MODERATION, LANGE 'IMPATIENCE' CONTESTED AT FORUM

Melbourne THE AGE in English 29 Aug 84 p 13

[Editorial: "Towards a Safer Pacific Region"]

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, has done well to retain the initiative on a nuclear-free zone in the Pacific by using his talent for consensus to win acceptance for a set of moderate principles. The South Pacific Forum members now have the basis of a treaty that is politically achievable, which may not have been the case if the impatient Mr Lange of New Zealand had had his way in Tuvalu. The significance of the Australian Government's success lies in the fact that Mr Hawke has managed to separate the issue of a nuclear-free zone from the strategically crucial question of ANZUS. Mr Lange, it is true, inserted his clause about the right of individual forum countries to make their own decisions about accepting visits from nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered American vessels, which everyone was pleased to endorse.

And that is the whole point. If the forum had followed New Zealand's lead and become embroiled in some form of joint attempt at keeping the United States Navy at bay, the consequences for the security of an ocean to which the Soviet Union is increasingly attentive would have been serious. In addition, the opportunity to exercise some positive influence against the nuclear exploitation of the Pacific might have been lost. What matters is to construct a careful and co-ordinated international effort, ultimately through the United Nations General Assembly, to address the real nuclear problems in the region. Those concern the continuing French nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll and proposals by Japan to dump nuclear wastes at sea. Australia's draft plan not only recognises the fundamental importance of tackling these existing threats, but aims to ban forum countries from acquiring, making or allowing the staging of nuclear weapons. It also sees the successful completion of a Pacific treaty as a contribution to the disarmament debate in general and a move to strengthen the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. If the Pacific is to be spared further nuclear developments, Australia has shown the way.

CSO: 4200/1076

DAILY REPORTS BAD RELATIONS BETWEEN HAWKE, LANGE

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 29 Aug 84 p 4

[Article by Mike Steketee]

[Text] Funafuti (Tuvalu): The South Pacific Forum ended here yesterday with a question mark over relations between the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, and his New Zealand counterpart, Mr Lange.

The relationship has not deteriorated to the stage of the periodic rows between Sir Robert Muldoon and Mr Malcolm Fraser, or to the almost open contempt between Sir Robert and Mr Hawke.

After all, Mr Hawke and Mr Lange do represent fraternal Labor Governments.

But during the three days they spent together on this coral atoll, the two leaders had no substantive discussions on the main issue between them--the ban by NZ on visits by nuclear ships.

It is clear that the issue is deadlocked as far as Australia and NZ are concerned.

Mr Hawke had talks with Mr Lange earlier this month at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting in Port Moresby.

Mr Hawke said later he had gained a better appreciation of NZ's position, but that if the US and NZ could not agree on the issue, then a reappraisal of the ANZUS Treaty would be required.

Yesterday, Mr Hawke said there was no point in having further talks before Mr Lange's visit to the US next month for discussions with the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz.

"This is not a matter now for negotiations between Australia and NZ," he said.

"We have had our discussion. I have put our point of view. Mr Lange is clearly aware of what our position is.

"It is now a matter for discussion and negotiation between NZ and the US."

Mr Hawke's unstated position is that NZ is deluding itself if it believes it can stay in ANZUS while not allowing its treaty partner, the US, port access for its nuclear ships.

Journalists, particularly those from NZ, have asked Mr Hawke a series of questions in recent days about his relations with Mr Lange.

While Mr Hawke has made the correct noises diplomatically, he has shown no great enthusiasm for elaborating on their relationship.

Asked yesterday how he had found working alongside Mr Lange at the forum, he replied: "I wasn't working alongside him--I was at the other end of the table.

"I found it congenial. I don't wish to go into comparison with his predecessor."

On the issues at the forum, Mr Hawke said he and Mr Lange had been "as one". But Mr Hawke did not mention the attempt made by Mr Lange last Monday to take the proposal for a South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Mr Hawke and most other leaders argued against the suggestion on the grounds that more detailed work should be done within the region first, on legal considerations and on questions such as the geographic limits of the zone.

CSO: 4200/1076

EDITORIAL ANALYZES HAWKE RELATIONS WITH ALP FACTIONS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 31 Aug 84 p 11

[Editorial: "Mr Hawke and ALP Factions"]

[Text] The Labor Party in Victoria, particularly since Federal intervention in the affairs of the branch in 1970, has been heavily factionalised; the effects have been displayed dramatically over the years. The most recent outbreak of war is over who gets what seats following the Federal redistribution. As a demonstration of comradeship it had been a far from ideal prelude to an election, with combatants trading allegations of branch stacking and even of theft. The Victorian branch's methods of managing the internal affairs of the ALP, a subject of wonder to those voters who are not also party members, has proven attractive to the ALP in other States to the extent that they have become gradually similarly factionalised. The hardening of the factions around the country has in turn been reflected in the Labor Party at the national level.

The institutionalisation of the factions has been one of the most marked features of the first term in office of the Hawke Government. With the formation of the Centre Left the stage has been reached where all but a few Labor MPs can be categorised quite clearly into three groups. Each has its own managers, calls its own meetings and produces its own written material. Disputes between them are frequently bitter, perhaps more bitter on occasions than those between the Government and the Opposition. At one level the factions are about the direction the Government should take. At another they are about the personal ambitions of their leading members and at another about the simple exercise of power for its own sake.

The Prime Minister is a member of the Right faction. His use of the numbers it commands has been ruthless. This applies not only to the way he has pursued policies that obviously conflict with Labor Party policy but also to the way he attained his position as party leader last year. It was partly because Mr Hawke was so clearly aligned with one group that the Centre Left was actually set up. Mr Hawke has by his actions promoted an intensity of factional feeling which was previously unknown at the national level. His recent demands to his colleagues that factional restraint be exercised therefore seem somewhat ironic. It is a little late now for the Prime Minister to attempt to become the statesman in the Labor Party. Members of the other two factions could hardly be expected to lay down their weapons on the advice of a Prime Minister who has shown repeatedly that he will wield his own quite ruthlessly whenever he sees the need.

Mr Hawke was nevertheless correct in identifying the factions as a potential source of serious trouble for the Government. It is true that the Opposition is making virtually no ground and the coming election may indeed see its position eroded further. The Government would at present seem safe from this quarter. Perhaps the greatest threat to it is that it will internally combust; that the disputes between the factions will become so intense that the preservation of the Government will become a matter of secondary concern.

Indeed, so institutionalised are the factions that Mr Hawke and his fellows in Government have a credibility problem when they speak on the matter. The suspicions they have of each other run far too deep. While the Federal Government remains popular it must recognise that that popularity could prove fragile if the Labor Party is unable to present itself as a cohesive force. The lead must come from the top and Mr Hawke, facing the near certainty of a second term, should make a positive effort to distance himself from the Right and put himself above factions in the party. A strong mandate would put him in a position to do so.

CSO: 4200/1076

SEVENTY WOMEN STORM FENCE AT ROXBY DOWNS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 27 Aug 84 p 1

[Article by Robin Usher]

[Text] Andamooka.--More than 70 women pulled down a section of two-metre high fence yesterday in the biggest display of power shown by demonstrators during their week-long protest at Roxby Downs.

The destruction of the fence is an indication of the way the protest might go this week. Already plans are being made for what are described as more direct actions than those of last week.

The women late yesterday walked along the road from their camp to the barbed wire-topped fence stretching for 200 metres on either side of the gate into the mine lease area.

Without hesitation and still singing verses such as "we are women and we rule" as well as some anti-uranium songs, they grabbed hold of the fence and began pulling it down.

The four policemen present were unable to prevent the women pulling down four sections of the fence about 25 metres long, although they warned them to stop.

A spokeswoman for the protesters, Ms Renee Leon, said the action demonstrated "a refusal to recognise false barriers around the mine" and was a "creative affirmation of female power".

"We will gain strength from this and go on to bigger and better things," she said. The protesters' philosophy allowed for some damage of property if it was done "in a spirit of creative affirmation".

Police reinforcements arrived after about 20 minutes and eight women were arrested and charged with wilful damage of property. They were released on bail to appear before a justice of the peace today.

One woman was carried more than 100 metres back to the paddy wagon after being arrested as she walked down the road back to the camp.

Ms Leon said some of those arrested, all women, were asked if they had "manhandled" the destroyed section of the fence.

The women protesters also wove strips of cloth through the wire around the gate and it had to be cut away before the gate could open.

Early yesterday morning a group of Young Labor Party members entered the lease to post letters against the mine from the Roxby Downs village.

The national secretary of Young Labor, Ms Margaret Colmer, said the action was the first public criticism of the ALP's uranium policy since the national conference.

"We are testing the party waters," she said. "It is about time the party heavies realised that rank-and-file members are not prepared to be bullied into accepting their form of railroad consensus on uranium."

CSO: 4200/1076

MALUKU DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS, PROSPECTS DISCUSSED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 21 Jul 84 p 2

/Text/ Maluku Governor Hasan Slamet stated that the industrial sector in his area, which has begun to develop, now needs a labor force of 25,000 to fill the needs of the growing plywood industry alone.

Maluku must import that labor force, particularly female laborers, from outside the area or receive them via transmigration programs simultaneously intended to utilize the potential of the area. He said that the required labor force will greatly determine Maluku's success in utilizing its potential, which remains largely unexploited.

Giving a statement in the Maluku governor's office last Tuesday /17 July/ to the APBN /National Estimate of Income and Expenditures/ Commission of the Indonesian DPR /parliament/, Hasan Slamet also said that facilities and infrastructures are ready down to the subdistrict level, and his area is ready to take off.

Obstacles

Beforehand, BAPPEDA /Regional Development Planning Board/ Chairman Drs Akip Latuconsina analyzed the problems that the area has thus far faced in carrying out development. One obstacle which the PEMDA /regional government/ still feels is the low population inhabiting 998 islands spread over an area of 851,000 square km. With a population of only about 1.4 million, the population density of Maluku Province is only approximately 16 per square km. Nevertheless, Latuconsina added, the small population is not compensated by even distribution.

Admittedly the infrastructure for land transport is the weakest among the transport sectors. Therefore, PEMDA Maluku desires the construction of commercial roads to support the development of the potential on the large islands, because with the sea transport which presently exists, the transportation of products to accumulation points is said to be very inefficient. It is necessary to spend days at sea to cover distances which are not very far over land.

Pressing

The need for land transportation infrastructures is now felt to be ever-increasing, because with the opening of transmigration areas there will emerge new production centers. Likewise, the founding of large industries in several areas, for example, the plywood industry (the largest in Southeast Asia) in Pasahari, Seram Island, will give rise to new consumption centers. This will require a land transportation network to connect the production centers with the new consumption centers.

In the sea transportation sector, PMEDA Maluku is trying to fulfill pier development, to reach 50 piers throughout all the subdistricts, aside from two concrete piers in Ambon and Ternate. The actual need is 74 piers. Five shipping lanes requiring five pilot boats can already be determined for the time when the piers are ready.

Air Transport Sector

This is evaluated as relatively the best. Of 17 airfields whose construction is being undertaken within the APBD /Regional Estimate of Income and Expenditures/, there are already 13 established air lanes. This situation is further supported by the availability of Pertamina /National Oil and Natural Gas Company/ depots and subdepots in 12 locations.

It is hoped that with the preparation of various development infrastructures the Maluku region, at the end of PELITA IV /Fourth 5-Year Development Plan/ the value of exports will reach \$300 to \$500 million, particularly if the TIR /Intensified Small Holder Fishfarming/ project covering 10,000 hectares in the Aru archipelago and 12 plywood industries are all already in production.

Exports from Maluku are presently coming out of a slump, being able to reach \$85 million in 1983. This amount is indeed still small in comparison with the value of exports reached in 1980, \$202 million, but is better than that of 1982, which fell drastically to \$78 million.

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CSO: 4213/268

NEW APPROACH TO DEVELOPING SMALL INDUSTRIES OUTLINED

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 23 Jul 84 pp 1, 8

/Text/ The cultivation of small industries through LIK /Small Industry Spheres/ will no longer be developed in PELITA IV /Fourth 5-Year Development Plan/ and will be replaced by direct development via industry centers. At the same time, to help supply capital to businessmen in weak economic groups, including small industries, the government has decided to furnish 770 billion rupiahs in credit to be allocated over 3 years.

This was announced by Industry Minister Ir. /Engineer/ Hartarto to the press in Surabaya last weekend after he finished a 4-day survey of about 40 small industrial concerns spread throughout East Java. He was accompanied on his survey by the Director General of Various Industries and Acting Director General of the Basic Chemical Industry Ir. Sotion Ardjanggi, the Director General of the Machine and Basic Metals Industry Ir. Eman Yogasara, the Director General of Small Industry Gito Sewojo SH /Master of Laws/ and Inspector General Harun Soewardi. They desired to absorb the problems directly in the field, so that national industrial development policies in Pelita IV might run smoothly.

No new LIK will be established during Pelita IV, according to Hartarto, because the expense is quite large. "But the private sector can do it if it wants to." Concerning LIK, in Pelita IV the government will only consolidate the benefits of already existing LIK. Small industries which may occupy LIK are only those felt to have strong potential to develop, by examining stability in the market for their products, or those already tied to large industry. LIK which have been established since Pelita III will be developed until completed.

As a replacement, small industries will be developed through industry centers, most of which are distributed throughout several areas. In East Java alone there are 940 industry centers which produce various types of goods; 450 centers, to be developed directly by the Department of Industry, are planned for Pelita IV.

Economic Impact

According to Hartarto, the development of industry is strategic, because of the aspect of its equitableness. Small industries, especially those in industrial centers, are shown to have a large impact on the economic life of society in the nearby area. From his field investigations of 4 days to several industry centers, it was apparent that small industries are able to raise the level of welfare of employees. Employees in the Pasuruan furniture industry center or the suitcase small industry in Sidoarjo receive on the average wages of 2,000-3,000 rupiahs per day, or even up to 5,000 rupiahs for skilled labor. "This may be higher than what construction workers get in Jakarta. They live in nice houses, too," he said.

The government is furnishing credit to help those small industries develop which have a strong potential market, directly in the open market or tied to middle and large-size industries. "We'll select the good ones first. And here the role of the regional office and the office of the Department of Industry will be very decisive," he said.

The size of the credit allocations themselves was not stated. However, it was said that in the last cabinet meeting the government decided to furnish funds for credit amounting to 770 billion rupiahs over 3 years to entrepreneurs from economically weak groups.

Asked about the obstacle of marketing, about which many small industry entrepreneurs complain, Hartato stated that marketing indeed is the number one problem. The problem arises in small industries which are not tied to large industries. For example the small furniture industry in Pasuruan is complaining that its market has not developed in years. Mainly, they hope for orders from holders of tenders for supplying goods to the government. "We will discuss with the Department of Commerce how this can be overcome. And our relations have been good all along, so that if it hasn't yet happened, it remains only a matter of time," he said. He admitted that it is an extremely complex matter to arrange the commercial administrations of small industries so broad and great in number.

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CSO: 4213/268

ALTERNATIVES IN PEAT DEVELOPMENT BEING WEIGHED

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 23 Jul 84 p 6

/Text/ Indonesia has peat reserves equivalent to 120 billion tons of coal, or 12 times the amount of coal reserves, 10 billion tons.

The Director General of Electricity and New Energy Sources Ir. /Engineer/ Arisumandar, answering questions at the dedication of the Department of Mining and Energy pavilion Saturday evening /21 July/ at the 1984 PRJ /Jakarta Trade Fair/ area stated that peat has attracted the attention of several investors, including some from Finland, who have expressed their desire to invest here.

However, according to Arismunandar, Indonesia has not yet given a firm answer, because we wish to see what will be best and optimal for us.

"We have not yet in fact reached a decision, but we hope that after investigation of 25 locations in West Kalimantan, which we expect to be finished by the end of October 1984, we can be more firm."

Finland itself, said Arismundar, has the ability to sell equipment. They want to invest here, but they wish to know the government's policy concerning peat, he added.

He said that the government, i.e. the Department of Mining and Energy, has the desire to develop peat, but needs to study its benefits completely.

Asked about the size of the investment for processing the peat, he stated that in this undertaking, entrepreneurs, particularly domestic entrepreneurs, will of course look first at what will be in it for them. And there is only a wide market for this peat in the household. Here arises a problem, whether the peat can be sold less expensively than petroleum. Aside from that, a mental switch is also required on the part of the consuming public, who have until now been using petroleum stoves, to the use of peat stoves.

For best utilization, the peat has to be formed into briquets and transported to Java, because with a population of 2.5 million, the market in West Kalimantan is extremely limited.

Preliminary Studies

Arismunandar cannot yet suggest when the peat can in fact be utilized in the context of energy diversification.

"I cannot make promises, but joint studies are currently being undertaken with the Asia Development Bank, researching all possibilities in Kalimantan."

In this area, he said, the greatest amount is in wood shaving. About 26 million cubic meters of limbah kayu are discarded annually.

Which one would be better is at present still under consideration. When the studies and research are finished, we wish to see wood shaving also used as a replacement for petroleum in Java, because up until now petroleum has been the basis of household energy development.

It is hoped that the preliminary studies will be finished by the end of October 1984, followed by further development evaluations to begin next year, to directly set up pilot projects in several locations.

He stated that the water power potential of Indonesia is 73,000 megawatts, but for several reasons it is not totally realizable.

If coal has an international sale price as it does now, with Australian coal's price between Aus\$50 and \$60 per ton, peat does not have international sale value.

The advantage of peat is that the soil beneath it is fertile, so that if it is removed the fertile soil beneath it will remain.

The areas having peat are South, Central, and West Kalimantan.

He said that West Kalimantan has no energy sources other than peat. There is water power, but it is quite expensive. As to electricity, the possibility of cooperation with Serawak is being investigated. It might be less expensive to generate electricity in Serawak and then transmit it here. This is an ASEAN cooperative project whose cooperation is still on paper, he added.

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CSO: 4213/268

ARMY'S VILLAGE ASSISTANCE, REFORESTATION, TRANSMIGRATION PROGRAMS

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 23 Jul 84 p 2

/Text/ TNI /Indonesian National Army/ KASAD /Army Chief of Staff Rudini stated that the implementation of the ABRI /Republic of Indonesia Armed Forces/ Village Assistance program, which has now taken place sixteen times, has obviously had very positive and excellent impacts, including stimulating and arousing a large part of village society in several provinces, especially West Sumatera, to race toward developing their villages is a spirit of self-reliance.

Further, he said as operational official in charge for the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program and Holy Day celebration for Islamic New Year 1404 Saturday morning /21 July/ in Kartini Hall, Jakarta, the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program has also caused a feeling of shared destiny and responsibility to grow between ABRI and the people. This means it will increasingly solidify the fact of unity of ABRI and the people, which was one goal of the program.

According to Rudini, during the implementation of the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program to date, many development projects have been undertaken by ABRI along with the people, aimed at improving the quality of life for the communities in the rural areas concerned. Aside from that, an effort is currently being developed to extend training to village people in the context of RATIH /trained people/ so that the villages will be able to provide for their own security from efforts at disturbance, as a link in the preparation for the participation of village society in further HANKAMRATA /Total Peoples Defense and Security/ efforts.

2,616 Villages To Date

Further, Col Inf. /Infantry/ Doko Sastrawiria, as secretary to the operational official in charge of the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program, said to the Holy Day ceremony participants, among other things, that up through the present implementation of the present TNI-ABRI Village Assistance "Manunggal /translation unknown/ XVI," 2,616 of 68,000 villages throughout Indonesia have received their turns. Priority is given to villages which are isolated and in the greatest need of the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program's outstretched hand to be able to move and arouse the spirit of the people to develop the villages so that they might reach the standard of other villages in the area.

According to him, five aspects have been determined which need to be worked upon in the villages during the implementation of the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program in working year 1984-1985. These are the repair and the health of village environment, increasing the availability of clean water, increasing or improving facilities and infrastructures along with activities in social life, preparing and establishing religious facilities such as mosques, religious schools, etc. for the people, and overcoming the isolation between villages and between villages and neighboring cities.

Reforestation and Transmigration Manunggal

Aside from implementing the Manunggal of TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program, said Col Inf. Doko Sastrawiria, ABRI is now also instigating a reforestation manunggal effort. It is believed that in 1984-1985 we will work on 12,000 hectares of forest area out of 75,000 hectares of forest area which are programmed for reforestation in eight provinces.

Along with that, political steps are now being prepared for the rehabilitation of burnt forest area in East Kalimantan, as a realization of the visit of TNI KASAD General Rudini with Forestry Minister Sudjarwo on 20 July 1984. Among other things it was agreed by both sides that the burnt forest area will be "Manunggal Reforested" codenamed "Manunggal Rehabilitation of East Kalimantan Forest." This undertaking will be entrusted to local troop units from KODAM /Regional Military Command/ Mulawarman, and is now being upgraded toward the process of implementation.

Another Manunggal program to be undertaken by TNI-ABRI this year, he added, is "Manunggal Transmigration." A letter of joint decision between the ABRI commander and the transmigration minister is being prepared. The first phase will begin with the forming of the Mamuju area of South Sulawesi into a pilot project through preparing farmland for 1,200 transmigrant family heads, times 2 hectares per family head, or about 2,400 hectares. Other work to be done includes the building of housing for the transmigrants, and the preparation of other facilities and infrastructures needed locally.

"The entire implementation will be submitted fully to TNI-ABRI. Project officials will also be from ABRI: most likely it will be submitted to the Corps of Engineers. At the same time, a work force from the people will join in, in the context of absorbing a work force from among the people (a prime priority), in participating in assisting the Department of Manpower in the effort for labor intensive," said the secretary to the operational official in charge of the TNI-ABRI Village Assistance program to reporters.

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CSO: 4213/268

VIENTIANE OFFICIAL BLAMES U.S., THAIS, PRC ON ANNIVERSARY

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 23 Aug 84 pp 1, 2, 3,

[Interview with Mr Khambou Soumisai, LPR Party Central Committee member and chairman of the Vientiane Capital Administrative Committee, on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of the seizure of Vientiane on 23 August; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Please tell us about the history and significance of 23 August 1975.

[Answer] We have scored many admirable achievements and victories, e.g., we have protected the fruit of the revolution and we have constructed a new economy, a new culture, and a new society. We have gradually raised the standard of living of the people and cadres, increased solidarity within the party and government, resolutely fought to maintain peace, happiness, and order in society, and strongly defended our territorial integrity.

In terms of the economy, the standard of living, and sociocultural aspects, prior to the seizure of power Vientiane Capital was a city of play and luxury; the standard of living of the people in Vientiane Capital was controlled by foreign countries. We had to depend on Thai markets even for a broken grain of rice and a piece of vegetable. Factory production and trade was dependent on foreign investors. Production bases in rural areas were weak and rotten. However, after the nationwide liberation and the establishment of the new regime we have been constructing a new economy and social culture, and have been raising the standard of living step by step. We have persistently transformed, constructed, and expanded the economy in the direction of self-sufficiency, and have gradually achieved basic self-sufficiency in terms of food supply. Cultivation areas for wet and dry-season rice are expanding every year. Rice fields have increased by a factor of two or three when compared with that prior to the power seizure. Replanting and reviving deserted rice fields, dry-season rice farming, and intensive agriculture which was never in the old regime have become new and active elements. Small and medium-sized irrigation systems were constructed and extensively expanded. This year we had over 5,000 hectares of dry-season rice which was more than that in years past. The people's conversion to agricultural cooperativization and collective production is becoming a new and admirable element. Animal husbandry has also been extensively expanded, and has increased each year. The cultivation of vegetables and other crops has progressed to being

self-sufficient. State trade networks have been improved and expanded. The people's collective trade co-ops are being set up and expanded in every village. Many government factories have been improved and newly constructed. Production has progressed and has become an effective foundation for economic expansion. Vientiane Capital, which previously was a market for distributing goods of foreign capitalists, and in which our people's indispensable standard of living clung to foreign countries, has now turned over a new leaf to become a city of production and thrift, and has gradually advanced to being a city with a solid economic base and independence. It has become its own master.

[Question] In order to maintain the heritage of this significant day, as the Vientiane Capital administrative committee chairman what do you think you want from government employees and the people in Vientiane Capital in order to celebrate this heritage?

[Answer] On 23 August it will be 9 years that the whole people and the people in Vientiane Capital have been emulating each other hurriedly carrying out the government's first 5-year plan, promoting the fifth plenum (3d session) of the Party Central Committee, and carrying out Plenum No 34 of the political bureau and Order No 153 of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee on the improvement and construction of Vientiane Capital which is the center of politics, the economy, and socioculture throughout the country. Another thing is the situation where Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, following Gen Athit Kamlang-ek's visit to China and under persuasion from Beijing, have encroached on and occupied the three Lao villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang in Paklai District, Saysboury Province, since 6 June 1984. This is a shameless invasion and a violation of LPDR sovereignty. Moreover, by collaborating with the Beijing reactionaries and the American imperialists, the Thai reactionaries have sent exiles and spies into [Laos] to spy, destroy and incite unrest in many ways in Vientiane Capital and in other provinces.

1. National defense and security. Our cadres, government employees, workers, soldiers, police, and all the people of Vientiane Capital must hurriedly improve, train, and strengthen military forces in every way, from Vientiane Capital on down to districts, wards, villages, factories, hospitals and schools so they will be peaceful and strong socialist outposts. They must mobilize more forces and help bring national defense and security to the expected level. We must continue and complete the registration of families and the issuing of ID cards as planned, and mobilize the people, cadres, government employees, and workers to be ever alert and to prevent spies, robbers, burglars, illegal merchants, and other social dangers from being in their villages. We must mobilize everyone to understand the occupation of the three Lao villages in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, by Thais so that our people will not believe the enemies and will not be used by them.

2. The Economy. First of all, we must focus on wet-rice production to yield 2.5 tons per hectare, work against drought, flooding, and pests, weed and apply fertilizer, and not leave any rice fields empty. We must prepare for dry-season rice production and complete the irrigation projects as planned, especially the Km 6 Irrigation Project, Wat Tai Noi, etc., install water pumps

throughout, guarantee the 1984-85 dry-season rice production as planned, mobilize all types of animal husbandry both collective and individual for cattle and poultry, etc.

3. Trade. We must work effectively to construct and expand trade, and emphasize setting up, improving, and organizing the people's trade co-ops, purchasing rice field and forest production for exporting goods, continuing trade registration so it will be completed this year, and organizing wet-rice purchase and exchange according to the expected figures.

4. Industry. We must focus on improving raw materials and spare parts to supply factories on a regular basis, and must also turn over a new leaf to complete the tree-felling plan.

7. We must construct, improve, and strengthen the dictatorship of the proletariat, attentively and extensively expand the members of the mass organizations, youth union, women's association, trade unions, united front, and young people's units and encourage these organizations to operate normally, to promote the roles of the mass organizations, carry out the obligations for national defense and security toward the government, and take part in the production process and in raising the standard of living.

We conclude that in the immediate future we must focus on defending and maintaining peace and order in Vientiane Capital, carrying out wet-rice production in time with the season and protecting the rice in the fields to grow properly, getting ready for dry-season rice farming, and raising the standard of living of the people of ethnic groups to have peace at the base level. We must mobilize the people to take part in national defense and security and to be ready to fight in all cases. We must increase the guiding of political ideology, raise the spirit of [revolutionary fighting], and carry out all resolutions and orders of the party and government in order to victoriously complete all the duties by the end of this year.

I would like to ask the people in Vientiane Capital to turn over a new leaf and protect and construct Vientiane Capital as befits the nation's political, economic, and sociocultural center and a civilized socialist capital. Thank you.

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CSO: 4206/164

REACTION CONTINUES TO SAYABOURY BORDER DISPUTE

Area Military Recruitment

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Somsouk Souksavat: "Ban Gnai Canton, An Outpost"]

[Excerpt] Ban Gnai Canton consists of four villages, Ban Gnai, Ban That, Ban Don, and Ban Dan under Paklai District, Sayaboury Province. Its total population is 2,616. Last year the people in this canton area voluntarily paid 31,116 kg of agricultural tax and sent 12 of their beloved children to serve in the regional forces and 215 in guerrilla units in order to defend the border and to maintain the peace and happiness of the people.

The people in this area united themselves to carry out actual work, e.g., transporting goods to the front line, building roads, etc, on 41 occasions over the last 2 months with 2,553 participants, and 6 times for transport work with elephants and 58 participants. The canton mobile guerrilla unit has been working in cooperation with the local military forces in effectively patrolling the border and defending their own canton.

In order to help the local military forces defend the border, the people in this canton also awakened themselves and voluntarily sent supplies to the front line, e.g., they gave 8 guffalos, 12 pigs, 50 kg of poultry, 416 kg of assorted vegetables, 87 kg of hot peppers, 140 kg of salt, 95 kg of tobacco, and much more.

New Charges of Thai Crimes

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 7 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by Somsouk Souksavat: "Lao Land--Ban Mai Canton"]

[Excerpts] On 6 June 1984 many battalions of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries led by Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, who has been dreaming of the position of Thai prime minister and has ambitions in the colonialism of the Beijing expansionists illegally encroached on and occupied three Lao villages in the Ban Mai Canton area, Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang. [They did this] shamelessly and openly by threatening and taking control of over 300 families with a total of nearly 1,000 people at gunpoint.

Ever since the Thai troops set foot in the three villages they have made these villages as hot as if they were in the middle of [a fire]. They have been doing many things against the people's will, e.g., abolishing the local administrative committees and replacing them with their minions, forcing the people to study the Thai language and making them use baht currency instead of kip, threatening and forbidding groups of more than five people from assembling, forcing women to have birth control injections, raping women and beating up children, openly stealing ducks and chickens from their coops, rice in barns, and valuable things in their houses on up to cattle and elephants. The Thai troops also insanely fired many thousands of 105 and 155 mm artillery and other types of mortars at villages nearby and set mine traps along the village border in order to stop people and livestock from making a living. Now the number of crimes they have been committing are increasing steadily, and they have particularly limited the people's ability to earn a living in the three villages and [have ultimately polarized them].

Based on incomplete figures from the local people, since the Thai troops have been occupying these three villages they have caused great damage to the people in the three villages and to the people in the villages nearby. For example, they destroyed 243 hectares of highland farm land, 257 hectares of rice fields, 115 buffalos, 298 pigs, 5 elephants, etc.

Comrade Bouncham, a Ban Mai Noi villager who fled with his family from where the incident took place to live in Ban Mai Canton, said with hatred in his voice, "Based on the history of Ban Mai Canton it had never been subordinate to Thailand and it has always been at peace. After Gen Athit Kamlang-ek came back from visiting China, Ban Mai Canton has become heated up because the Thai troops are insane and have stepped in to encroach on and trample on us. By refusing to kneel to the gunpoint administrative committee of the Thai troops, 13 families of our villages escaped to safety by leaving houses, farms, gardens, cattle, and broken rice. We pledged to unite the people in this area to work in cooperation with the local guerrilla unit and military forces and will continue to fight in order to bring back to the arms of the nation our three beloved Lao villages that have been seized by the Thai troops.

With hatred that will not yield to the crimes of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, the people in Ban Mai Canton and the people of Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, have gotten together and headed to the border and emulated each other for the 1984 wet rice production season to victoriously succeed and to take part in all aspects so that Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang under Ban Mai Canton will be safe from the bloody hands of the Thai soldiers, and that Ban Mai Canton will be a canton that steadily scores bigger achievements in defending and construction a socialist country.

Refugees From Disputed Villages

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 9 Aug 84 pp 1, 2

[Article: "The Sayaboury Provincial Social Welfare Section Gives Material Assistance to the People in the Three Lao Villages"]

[Text] According to the news from Paklai District, on 5 August 1984 representatives of the national social welfare and veterans in Sayaboury Province brought many kinds of indispensable consumer products to assist the people in the three villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang who had fled and left their own homes as a result of the shameless and illegal encroachment on and occupation of the three villages by the Thai reactionaries.

The hand-over ceremony was held in Ban Na Meuang, Ban Det Canton, Paklai District, where there is now a total of 90 families numbering over 550 people evacuated from the three Lao villages to stay in Ban Det Canton. The consumer supplies which the social welfare and veterans in Sayaboury Province brought to help their compatriots were over 300 blankets, 89 rice steamers and pots, over 650 soup bowls and plates, 150 Lao skirts, 1,000 meters of cloth, 200 kg of Fab detergent, 500 bars of soap, 86 mosquito nets, 150 mats, 150 knives, 80 water buckets, 150 hoes and shovels, over 1,000 kg of salt, and other items.

Ex-Education Officer Interviewed

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Aug 84 p 2

[Interview with Mr Bouali Keomani, ex-education chief in Thong District, by an unnamed PASASON reporter, date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] During the period you were appointed to educational work in Ban Gnai, Ban Det, and Ban Mai Cantons, can you tell us the situation of the people of Ban Savang, Ban Kang, and Ban Mai?

[Answer] I was one who had shared weal and woe with the people in the three villages because from 1965 to 1968 I was appointed to be education chief in Thong District which consists of Ban Gnai, Ban Det, and Ban Mai Cantons.

The people were engaged in highland and lowland farming, hunting, and fishing. The main transportation was elephants.

During the time I was working there, speaking of the three villages in particular there were elementary schools in all villages. Comrade Phai was responsible in Ban Savang, Comrade Si Sounakhen in Ban Kang, and Comrade Di in Ban Mai.

I went to inspect these schools on a regular basis each month. Each village had more than 40 students. They were all diligent and active. After finishing school there they continued to study in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, and Luang Prabang and Vientiane Provinces.

When I worked there the education was truly Lao. They did not study other foreign languages in their schools.

[Question] What is your opinion on the occupation of the three Lao villages by the Thai troops?

[Answer] When I learned that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries had encroached on and occupied these three villages I was extremely angry and also concerned for the people and students who are being savagely exploited by Thai troops at the present time.

Their destruction of our educational system and forcing Lao to study the Thai language has made me more angry than ever before. In the occupation of the three Lao villages by the Thai forces I think they had this dark scheme in advance [or else why did] they claim these three villages were theirs? These tricks are all plans to serve the Beijing expansionists, and those who directly carried them out are groups of people with evil intentions in Thailand led by Gen Athit Kamlang-ek in order to separate the Lao and Thai peoples and to create tensions between the two countries.

Sayaboury Monk Interviewed

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 8 Aug 84 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Pha Achan Bounpheng Kaomanivong, a committee member of the tao Unified Buddhist Association in Aayaboury Province and chairman of the Lao Unified Buddhist Association in Paklai District; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] I would like to ask Pha Achan about the three Lao villages, Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang, that were occupied. What do you know about the history of these three villages?

[Answer] I myself am from Paklai District. I became ordained and have studied Buddhism since I was over 10. I am now 48. I know about the background of these three villages. In 1964 I was appointed to teach Bali in the Thong District area along with another monk named Pha Salong (who later left the monkhood to become a lay teacher in Ban Savang and got married there). Pha Salong and I travelled to check the situation in this locality and selected Wat Sibounheuang in Ban Gnai as a teaching place because it was a joint center for monks and novices. The monks and novices who came to study in this Bali school were from Wat Ban Mai and Wat Ban Savang. Later, I used to go to preach and to lead the people in the three villages in performing Buddhist functions. I did not see that these three villages were subordinate to Thai administrative committees at all. After I returned to live in Paklai District I have been going to visit and to teach the people in the three villages every year. Normally the local people will organize an annual Buddhist festival in April every year from one temple to the next until all the temples there are done. I have taken this opportunity to join them in the three-canton area in Thong District every year because Buddhism and the

Buddhist temples and monks and novices in this locality and also in Wat Ban Mai and Wat Savang are directly under the Lao Unified Buddhist Association in Paklai District.

[Question] How do you feel about the encroachment on and occupation of these three Lao villages by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries?

[Answer] I feel bad that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have sent their troops to illegally encroach upon and occupy these three Lao villages. It was a shameless and open violation of Lao sovereignty and against Buddhist morality that teaches people to be kind and to love each other. Their acts revealed them to be full of defilement and desire for war which is called "revenge" in Buddhism. I do not understand the leader of the Thai power-holding circle who always propagandizes that Thailand is a land of Buddhism. His mouth speaks of justice but his acts demonstrate injustice. They have created tension in the three villages, and cut off communications between people and also between monks, novices, and laymen. They also forced Thai Buddhists to commit crimes against Lao Buddhists in these three villages. Thailand and Laos are close neighbors and have the same religion. Thai monks and the Thai people and also Lao monks and the Lao people love peace and have no desire to kill each other. Instead, they love peace and happiness and are kind and loving to each other.

The failure of the talks to solve the problem in Bangkok recently made me sad when I learned of the insincerity of the Thais in solving problems by peaceful and neighborly means. I ask Thai Buddhists who love justice to do everything possible to demand that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries withdraw their troops from the three Lao villages completely and unconditionally, and also compensate for the damages they caused to normalize the situation in the three villages as they were before 6 June 1984. This is truly the joint wish of the Thai and Lao Buddhists.

9884

CSO: 4206/161

TRADE OFFICIAL: WOOD EXPORT SYSTEM STREAMLINED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 18 Aug 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Lao State Trade Sector Improves Wood Export"]

[Text] Mr Inhom Phinit, director of the Lao State Trade Sector, told a reporter on 15 August about the problem of exporting wood which is an important strategic product of Laos. It is expected that by August of this year the Lao State Trade Sector will accelerate wood export to over 1,500 cubic meters.

The company director added that after the careful improvement in exports including wood to foreign countries under the close guidance of the higher echelons, for example, the Ministry of Trade in many recent months, at the beginning of the year the Lao State Trade Sector has continuously carried out the political duty of the party along with export and import, and has succeeded step by step. For example, the wood export situation was previously considered difficult, and now it has been effectively improved and solved. This was demonstrated in the actual work. Since May, June, and July of this year the Lao State Trade Company was able to carry out the plan to export nearly 4,000 cubic meters of wood.

Mr Inhom said that the conditions facilitating the work were that the company had improved and organized a number of wood transport units directly subordinate to it, and also that the Lao State Trade Company had signed a lump sum agreement with different provincial trade companies and state wood enterprises.

The Lao State Trade Company also improved its budget problem by taking the plan as its [base].

Mr Inhom Phinit added that in order for the 1984 plan to be a success, in early August the Lao State Trade Company opened the emulation process so that the cadres and workers would be able to score achievements for the coming two great historical days, the 30th anniversary of the LPRP and the 10th anniversary of the LPDR. For the operation the company set expected figures for each work section, and for committees to inspect the results in each section monthly for the purpose of steadily raising the work efficiency and to make trading become an [effective part] of the socialist economy.

BRIEFS

ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION, EXPORTS--Vientiane (MAI)--Comrade Bounchan Chanthachak, deputy chief of the Board of Directors of Lao Electric Company announced that in the first 6 months of 1984, the technical cadres and the workers in Lao Electrical Company State enterprise, united to score real achievements. They produce a total of 391,445,000 kilowatt hours of electricity, an average monthly production of 65,240,833 kilowatt hours. They distributed 77,579,505 hours inside the country, especially in Vientiane Capital and Vientiane Province. Some 4.65 percent or 3,601,277 kilowatt hours was used in agricultural production. Some 6.10 percent or 6,730,756 kilowatt hours was used in industrial enterprises and 39.26 percent or 69,247,472 kilowatt hours was used for lighting in general. Also, 302,670,800 kilowatt hours were produced and exported to foreign countries. This exceeded the half year plan by more than 2.20 percent. [Excerpts] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 17 Aug 84 p 1] 12753

SAYABOURY MILITARY MOBILIZATION--Since 6 June, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, with Athit Kamlangsek as the ringleader, brought Thai soldiers to grab three Lao villagers: Ban Mai, Ban Kang and Ban Savang, under the administration of Paklay District, Sayaboury Province. The young people and the residents of Paklay District which includes 14 cantons, have made the resolute decision to take part in helping the regional armed forces. Several thousand young people volunteered to serve in guerrilla units and in regional armed forces in order to perform their task in protecting the border and the security of the country. At the same time, the young people and the residents of this area also perform their duty in transportation and road construction. Over 10,000 workers and several hundred elephants take part in transporting food to the front, to help the military tremendously. [Excerpts] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 17 Aug 84 p 2] 12753

VIENTIANE DISTRICT MILITARY RECRUITING--In order to perform one's honorable and glorious task toward the beloved country, in the middle of July 1984, 310 young people in the villages and the different cantons surrounding Nasaithong District, Vientiane Capital have awakened to volunteer to serve the country. They are serving the defense and public security forces of the country. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 20 Aug 84 p 1] 12753

USSR SPARE PARTS AID--In the afternoon of 17 August 1984, at the small-vehicle transportation company belonging to the Ministry of Transport and

Post Office, there was a ceremony to sign an agreement to receive spare parts for repairing socialist vehicles provided as assistance by the Soviet Union. The spare parts, valued at 34,998.10 rubles, were given to the Ministry of Transport and Post Office, especially for the small-vehicle transportation company. These were provided at no cost to Laos. Mr Phali from the Lao side, the chief administrator of the small-vehicle transportation company, and the Soviet representative, Mr (Loskop), the chief of the experts with the trade mission, signed the agreement document to hand over the spare parts for socialist vehicles. Attending the ceremony were Mr Boualy Lovansai, first deputy minister of the Ministry of Transport and Posts, Mr (Smiepnov), deputy Soviet commercial attache to Laos, Soviet experts, the department chief, and workers involved with this company. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 20 Aug 84 pp 1, 4] 12753

GDR TRAINING OF NEWSMEN--The Lao Journalist's Association opened a training class for specialized tasks for radio broadcasters in the evening of this past 16 August with the aid from the German Democratic Republic Journalist's Association. This is the 5th class held by the GDR Journalist's Association to help train newsmen of the Lao Journalist's Association in specialized tasks. On this occasion a total of 30 experienced broadcast editors and announcers from different radio stations participated. The subjects for training were theory and techniques in radio broadcasting. The emphasis was on raising the theoretical level of socialist newspapers primarily in interviewing, live broadcast, program preparation and relationships between local radios and the central echelon as well as management and plans for radio stations. Honored guests at the opening ceremony for the class were Mr Thongsavat Yamani, vice chairman of the State committee for news, newspapers, radio and television and many representatives from several different newspapers. Representatives from the embassy of the German Democratic Republic in Laos and news representatives from socialist countries, embassies and representatives in the Lao People's Democratic Republic also participated. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 20 Aug 84 pp 1, 4] 12753

SAVANNAKHET MILITARY RECRUITMENT--Vientiane (KPL). In the middle of August, in the Sompoi and Saignaphoum cantons, Khanthabourli District, Savannakhet Province, 50 young people volunteered to serve in the Lao People's Army to take part in protecting and building the socialist country. According to other reports, since August 1984 until now, more than 200 young people in Khanthabourli, Champhon and Atsaphangthong districts in Savannakhet Province have awakened and volunteered to serve in the Army. [Excerpts] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 18 Aug 84 pp A3, 4] 12753

VIENTIANE TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP--Speaking of the Lao trade union nationwide in general and the Vientiane Capital trade union in particular, they have expanded from the fine heritage of our Lao working class. The trade union which bravely and persistently led us to liberate the nation has been rapidly expanded. In the beginning, after the liberation of Vientiane there were only approximately over 600 trade union members throughout Vientiane Capital. Now the members have increased to over 6,000 people out of a total of over 11,000 workers and government employees. [Excerpts] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 22 Aug 84 p 2] 9384

EDITORIAL REVEALS 'HISTORIC SHIFT OF OPINION' ON U. S., ANZUS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 1 Sep 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Pacific Problems"]

[Text] IN THE IMMEDIATE aftermath of the election it was not entirely clear if the voters had chosen to remove the previous government at all costs, or if they had knowingly voted for the Labour Party's nuclear-free policies.

But as the weeks have worn on that reasonably reliable guide to public opinion, the letters to the editor column, has shown that correspondents are angrier about the prospect of cartoned milk than they are about the risks to Anzus posed by the new Government's policies.

A historic shift of opinion appears to have occurred in this country.

It seems that New Zealanders have handed the new Government the difficult mandate to keep us nuclear-free without dismantling the tripartite defence treaty between the United States, Australia and ourselves. But the forces ranged against our apparent desire to have it both ways are considerable.

It is not necessary to be an alarmist to understand Washington's concern about maintaining a deterrent to Soviet forces in the Pacific area.

In Australia the Hawke Government has faced down its own Left and insisted on the retention of visits by America's nuclear-powered warships. Our pursuit of contrary policies is democratically based — we do not share Australians' perceptions of defence issues — but it could cause Mr Bob Hawke considerable trouble with his aggrieved leftists. It would be unreasonable to expect him not to resent this.

Watching an increasingly adventurous Soviet presence in their region has led the leaders of Singapore and Malaysia to express misgivings about the effect of New Zealand's new policies on Anzus.

At the same time muffled reports from the South Pacific Forum in Tuvalu last week suggest

that the desire for a nuclear-free Pacific is shared by many, though not all, of our island neighbours.

All these different positions recognise the conflicting need to discourage aggressive countries from overrunning weaker ones with the long-term purpose of achieving a gradual transition to a non-nuclear world.

In this historic argument New Zealanders will have to ask themselves whether their reactions to the nuclear issue are emotional rather than a constructive part of building confidence to increase compromise.

The Government has clearly been told that we find nuclear weapons intolerably dangerous. However, the problem with trying to create a nuclear-free zone that keeps our allies out of our ports is that we would seem to be tackling the symptom only. The nuclear disease would continue to spread because the fundamental question of super-power confidence has not been addressed.

The anguish of anti-nuclear campaigners is easy to understand but at the present time it has resulted in us appearing to have a policy based on a "stop the world we want to get off," mentality.

We will have to come up with something more positive than this or the disapproval of our friends and allies will be easy to understand.

LANGE 'BOUND IN TIGHT POLITICAL DILEMMA ON WARSHIP VISITS'

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 1 Sep 84 p 6

[Article by Tony Verdon]

[Text]

While the Government was going to great lengths this week to highlight the parlous state of the economy, the equally vexing issue of nuclear ships remained to be confronted.

The Prime Minister, Mr Lange, appears to find himself bound in a tight political dilemma over warship visits. It will be difficult to escape from it unscathed.

He must somehow steer his fledgling Government through the nuclear ships row without further antagonising the Anzus partners, or the considerable pool of support which has built up in New Zealand for his party's present stand.

It will take labours of Sisyphian proportions to hold on to both membership of Anzus, in its present form, and the ban on nuclear ship visits. If Mr Lange manages it, he will have pulled off nothing less than a political masterpiece.

While politics and diplomacy can often mix to form a compromise solution to such seemingly intractable problems, it is difficult to see one emerging from the present hard-line stands being taken on both sides of the argument.

The issue will come to a head next month when Mr Lange meets the United

States Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, in New York. Both will have much at stake over the issue—too much for either to give ground easily.

Would Fuel Demands

Quiet accession by the United States Administration to the New Zealand ban on port visits by nuclear vessels would fuel demands for the same treatment from other Western allies, most of them in geographically more strategic positions.

The Americans fear the "ripple effect" any agreement to the ban within the Anzus alliance would have in Australia.

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, would automatically come under stronger pressure from the left wing of the Australian Labour Party for a similar arrangement.

That would be more than awkward for both the Americans, who have several important military and intelligence installa-

tions on Australian soil, and Mr Hawke.

The United States would also be concerned about the effect a new arrangement banning port visits under Anzus would have in countries such as Japan and in Europe.

There is also the question of a lack of alternative ports either sufficiently deep or well equipped to handle visits of American warships in the South Pacific.

While many South Pacific nations support calls by nuclear powered or armed warships, visits even for rest and recreation of the crew would not take place because they lack adequate facilities.

Diplomatic and trade sources in Wellington rule out the possibility of the United States reacting against the ban by taking retaliatory trade moves.

Intelligence Sources

Such a prospect was suggested earlier this year by the former Minister of Overseas Trade, the Hon Warren Cooper.

Instead, informed sources in Wellington believe New Zealand would lose out, if there is a break in the alliance, by missing the wealth of both military and political intelligence provided by the Anzus partners.

Apart from military intelligence, New Zealand receives a wide range of information which benefits both trading and diplomatic perspectives.

New Zealand obviously does not have the resources to collect the type of intelligence it receives through its links with the Americans.

There would also be clear disadvantages in not being able to co-operate in air and land exercises with the Americans, if naval visits are not permitted.

Only this week the Minister of Defence and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr O'Flynn, announced details of a key Anzus land-air exercise named Triad, to be held in the middle of the North Island in October.

He said it was appropriate New Zealand should

host such an exercise of "demonstrable importance to the maintenance of effective defence in this part of the world."

Mr O'Flynn said the exercise would be "consistent with our commitments in the region, and New Zealand's own defence and security interests."

But Triad '84, the third in the Triad series of exercises, could well be the last of its type if the Government sticks by its ban.

Meanwhile, the Government appears confident it can talk and negotiate its way through the Anzus difficulties, without the alliance falling apart.

There is a feeling the Americans may have overplayed their hand on the issue, particularly when Mr Shultz was in New Zealand immediately after the July snap election.

He is said then to have privately indicated that the ban could not be in place unless the alliance was reviewed.

The general perception was that the new Government, only days old at the time, was being bullied even though Mr Shultz publicly made it clear there was time to try and sort out a settlement.

Since then, Mr Lange has said the policy of banning the vessels was not negotiable, even though he tried just after becoming Labour Party leader early last year to modify the stand.

The flat rejection of his efforts to soften the policy last year indicated the depth of feeling within the party on the issue.

The Government MP almost certain to be named soon to chair Parliament's disarmament and arms control select committee, Helen Clark (Mt Albert), is adamant the policy will stand.

Carried Along On Tide

With other Government MPs, she says it is ridiculous to say that the existence of the treaty depends absolutely on the possibility of visits by American vessels, made on an average of one in 18 months, for rest and recreation of the crew.

Nor does Helen Clark accept the contention that in agreeing to New Zealand's ban, the United States Administration would be setting a precedent which could be applied elsewhere.

Rather than starting the ripple, according to Helen Clark, New Zealand is merely being carried along on the tide which has seen many of the smaller nations promote an independent, non-nuclear stance.

She also rejects suggestions that there has been a trade-off between the left and right wings of the party over the Government's conservative economic policy.

Some observers in Wellington believe the conservative economic policy has been "bought" by the party's left wing, in return for the tough stand on nuclear visits.

And, like her colleagues, Helen Clark does not believe the ban will mean the end of Anzus.

However, few in Wellington will confidently predict what the outcome of the Anzus negotiations will be.

COALITION BACKS MULDOON, CRITICIZES TREASURY ON EXCHANGE CRISIS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 1 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] **Support for Sir Robert Muldoon and criticism of Treasury's handling of the June-July foreign exchange crisis came today from the Coalition for Open Government.**

CoG spokesman Mr Geoff Bertram said today that not only had there been "conspicuous" gaps in the books when they were opened on Thursday, but Treasury had overstated the degree of pessimism on the state of the economy.

"Treasury has no more political sense than a bar of soap," said Mr Bertram, who added it was "very ironic to be agreeing with

Sir Robert Muldoon on some of these things."

Mr Bertram explained the irony by saying CoG was now siding with Sir Robert on the release of information when in the past the previous government had often refused information CoG wanted. He had also been critical of Sir Robert's handling of the economy, but now found he was agreeing with much he had said in the past few weeks.

"People have been too keen to jump on him . . . you have to separate the person from what they are saying," he said.

While welcoming the release of the Treasury and Reserve Bank material, Mr Bertram joined others by

saying it should be an annual exercise. However, the books did not tell the full story.

Serious criticism had been made of the Treasury by Sir Robert Muldoon in its handling of the June-July foreign exchange crisis. A full set of memoranda from Treasury was required if these criticisms were to be judged, he said.

"It was clear the Reserve Bank was far from happy with Treasury's handling of our overseas investments," he said.

Mr Bertram said much of this investment had been

in non-liquid yen. This had made it very difficult to get hold of the investments during the first days of the run on the dollar in June.

"We need to see more books to see how the last foreign exchange crisis was handled, and particularly to see how to handle the next one," he said.

Mr Bertram said the massive devaluation in July was presented as unavoidable at the time. Yet, there was nothing in the books to support that.

Treasury had also slanted its data to push the Government down an orthodox economic stabilisation path, he said.

Unemployment figures had been shown to be rising faster than other OECD countries. But, in fact, New Zealand had one of the lowest rates of unemployment, he said.

In analysing the budget deficit, Treasury distinguished between the cyclical and structural deficit. Its division of the deficit was not only a controversial approach not accepted by all economists, but presented an extreme set of figures, he said.

This slant was designed to push the Government down a path of an orthodox stabilisation package.

LANGE URGES 'RESTRAINT' TO OVERCOME CRISIS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 31 Aug 84 p 7

[Text] Wellington, 30 Aug.--All New Zealanders would have to show restraint for the next two to five years to overcome the "gravest economic crisis this country has ever faced", the Prime Minister, Mr Lange, said today.

Fulfilling a pre-election promise to "open the books", Mr Lange today released two detailed Treasury documents and a Reserve Bank briefing paper prepared before the 14 July election for the incoming Government.

Mr Lange said the Treasury and Reserve (Central) Bank reports clearly showed the economy was "well past instant miracles or immediate relief".

He said: "This Government is asking the people of New Zealand for restraint and co-operation in the gravest economic crisis this country has ever faced."

Not Policy

Mr Lange stressed that the documents, released a fortnight before an economic summit to be attended by representatives of all major economic interest groups in New Zealand, were not Labor policy documents.

The Government did not agree with all the suggestions made in them, he said.

They had been released because "we propose to take the people of New Zealand into our confidence in all our economic planning," said Mr Lange.

The same papers would have been given to the National (conservative) Party headed by Sir Robert Muldoon if it had been re-elected on 14 July.

The Budget, due to be delivered in October, will indicate what official advice the new Labor Government will follow.

Mr Lange said the Government would not feel bound by the recommendations in the two reports.

They included a floating exchange rate, a reduction in the real value of wages, a capital gains tax, a tax on fringe benefits and the sale of shares in State enterprises such as Air New Zealand and the Petroleum Corporation of New Zealand (Petrocorp).

"The values reflected in a Labor Government in terms of social objectives ought not to be assumed to be the same values as a Treasury perspective," he said.

The reports strongly criticise the previous Government's handling of the economy.

They call on the new Administration to pursue a consistently tight monetary policy with a determined program for reducing the internal deficit. The officials call for a floating exchange rate to make New Zealand's foreign exchange system more flexible and more responsive to international conditions.

The recommendations for a capital gains tax and taxation of fringe benefits are put forward by the Treasury to broaden the tax base.

On the issues of personal incomes and unemployment, the Treasury detects a pressing need for greater flexibility in the wage-fixing system.

That was required so wages could be more responsive to the underlying supply and demand conditions. But it would also mean real wages for some groups would drop.

There was evidence that the average level of real labor costs was too high, the Treasury report said.

Criticism of the handling of the economy by the previous Government is implicit in the Treasury report from the opening of its section on an overview of economic management.

"The New Zealand economy continues to display one of the most lacklustre performances among countries in the developed world. While there are many bright spots within it, and the external environment is a little more favorable than it has been for some years, the outlook on the whole is not encouraging," it said.

The inflation rate, 5.1 per cent in 1983-84, was forecast to rise to 6 per cent in 1984-85 and to 7.5 per cent in 1985-86.

CSO: 4200/2

DAILY VIEWS LANGE INVOLVEMENT WITH PEOPLE, PROBLEMS AT FORUM

Christchurch THE PRESS in English 1 Sep 84 p 18

[Article by Ken Coates]

[Text] As the R.N.Z.A.F. Hercules lumbered down the grass runway that takes up a sizeable area of the coral island of Funafuti, fishermen cast their nets into the blue lagoon.

With this and other New Zealand and Australian aircraft went the politicians, officials, journalists, television crews, catering teams, communications experts, and vehicles brought into the remote atoll for the South Pacific Forum's 15th annual meeting.

The fishermen did not glance up. They were getting on with their life of harsh subsistence, harvesting coconuts and catching fish.

The Aussies and Kiwis were returning to their comfort and affluence.

What will the two days of talk between the heads of 13 Pacific countries mean to these courteous and hospitable Polynesian people, aside from the memory of days of hard work preparing feasts, weaving acres of mats, and rehearsing island songs and dances?

Apart from the sterile, formal words of the official communique, a hint of the significance of the conference lay in the enthusiasm of both Prime Ministers, David Lange and Bob Hawke, for the forum.

Mr Lange in particular identified with people and their problems.

In response to a plea for help from the tiny Pacific Island countries of Kiribati (previously the

Gilberts), Tuvalu, Niue, and the Cook Islands, in the forum he urged a close and sympathetic study of their problems.

New Zealand experts will join with those of Fiji, Nauru, and Western Samoa and officials from the four smaller countries to come up with practical answers to problems of transport, trade, food and water supply, communications, and energy.

It was no wonder that at cockcrow, Mr Lange was out on a bicycle, bare footed and shirt flapping open, bowling down the dusty road beneath coconut palms taking a look for himself how the people of Tuvalu live.

Plain to see were the open-air cooking fires, the single tap from a concrete rain-water tank and the lack of any sewerage system. As Mr Lange said, it was difficult for countries like Australia and New Zealand to have any idea of the problems of smaller island countries.

Kiribati put forward a paper expressing frustration at the formula used by the big international funding organisations, that made it difficult for some countries to qualify for aid finance. The cost of belonging to a multilateral organisation as a member State could outweigh any form of benefit.

Mr Lange said that as well as looking at possibilities for an economic base for smaller countries, access to markets, and regional transport, New Zealand would also re-assess how aid is distributed in the Pacific.

While larger countries like Fiji and Western Samoa were apprehensive as to what this might mean for them, Mr Lange said that it came down to simply where the need was greatest.

The move to define a nuclear-free zone in the Pacific places before the world the concern of forum countries about the nuclear arms race.

It is an important initiative in the face of disappointing lack of progress in global disarmament. The forum countries felt that efforts should be intensified to encourage the signing of a test ban treaty that would outlaw all forms of nuclear testing by all states.

They also took a perceptive look at the report of the joint New Zealand, Australian, and Papua-New Guinea scientific mission that visited the French nuclear test site on Mururoa last year. It was noted that while findings allayed concern over short-term effects, they provided no reassurance about long-term consequences. In no sense did the scientists' findings diminish opposition to nuclear testing by France.

Nauru and Kiribati expressed concern at the lack of progress of commitments by the major powers on nuclear waste dumping.

Proposals to strengthen the London Dumping Convention to ban completely the dumping of nuclear waste, will be examined by the special working group, to be chaired by Australia, set up to produce a draft treaty ready for next year's forum in Rarotonga.

Protests will also be made to Japan against its proposals to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific.

As to the much-publicised issue of visits by nuclear warships, it was as well for the nuclear-free zone proposal that this was outside its provisions, and left to the decision of individual countries.

Unlike New Zealand, Australia has extensive commitments to the American military, including land

installations. It was significant that en route while returning to Canberra, Mr Hawke stopped off at Suva, Fiji, for talks with the Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

Publicly, Mr Hawke said that Australia would continue to welcome visits by nuclear warships of its allies, and he was glad that Fiji shared this view.

New Zealand exerted its influence for peace and stability by moves aimed at taking the heat out of the potentially-explosive issue of independence for New Caledonia.

Pro-independence groups, notably the Kanaks in New Caledonia, consider that selfrule by 1989 is not moving fast enough, and with a possible change of government in France, may not come at all.

Moves for moderation came in the face of strong urgings by the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, Father Walter Lini, supported by the Solomons, that the forum back "re-inscription" of New Caledonia in the United Nations list of territories to be decolonised.

This would have involved the regular review of New Caledonia's progress to independence by the United Nations "Committee of 24," of which Fiji and Australia are members.

New Zealand considered that even if this move succeeded, it would be regarded by France—whose integrity of purpose is unquestioned—as an unfriendly act. It was also considered likely to restrict the French Government's freedom of action, by exposing it to domestic Right-wing criticism in France, and agitation by anti-independence groups in New Caledonia.

Mr Lange's "keep-talking" initiative, rather than a stance which regards violence by the Independence Front as inevitable, resulted in an important five-member group, at Ministerial level, being set up to discuss concerns with the French and the Front.

The forum rejected "re-inscription" with the United Nations, a move which Father Lini described as completely destroying the Front's confidence in the forum. This meant, he said, that the door was opened even wider to the possibility of seeking assistance of force from outside.

Father Lini forecasted increasing violence and said that there was no way to stop the Front seeking help from Libya or elsewhere.

Both Australia and New Zealand expressed a concern that New Caledonian independence safeguard the rights of all its inhabitants, including the Kanaks.

The forum resolved that decolonisation would be advanced by a public statement by France making a commitment to independence. It also sought the transfer of more political and administrative powers to ensure the country is well prepared for self-government.

Journalists questioned Mr Lange on the possibility of New Zealand being asked to send troops to New Caledonia "if the worst comes to the worst."

"The prospect of France calling on New Zealand would be remote and it is a possibility we ought not to contemplate," he said.

"It has been so easy in the past for people to say there is an inevitability of violence. We ought to be saying there is an inevitability of independence: its pace and the shape of the Government—they are the only two questions," he said.

IMPORTERS MAY LOSE OVER DEVALUATION

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 1 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Companies which made high bids for radio and television import licences may now lose money as a result of devaluation.

In the first open tender for licences to import radio and television sets, premiums of up to 100 per cent were paid.

The tender was held in June--before the devaluation raised import prices by 25 per cent.

Now some companies are worried that their imported goods will be too dear.

They do not have to use the licences, but they cannot get back the \$1.9 million in premiums they paid to the Government.

Local television and radio manufacturers are already protected by a 45 per cent tariff.

On top of that, importers have paid premiums averaging 69 per cent on radios and 46 per cent on televisions.

The highest single premium was 99.6 per cent, paid by Irvin and Stern Contracts Ltd, of Auckland, for the right to import \$18,400 worth of radios.

Noel Leeming Television, of Christchurch, paid the highest premium for a television import licence, 61 per cent.

Mr Lex Elgin, Leeming's sales manager, said he was not sure what the company would do about the licence.

"Devaluation has really taken the cream out of it," he said.

"This is the first time there has been a tender for colour television sets, so it is a little difficult. We will definitely learn from the situation."

The president of the Electronic Manufacturers' Federation, Mr Jack Christie, said that some companies were now trying to sell their licences.

"They cannot get rid of them," he said.

He predicted that premiums would tumble sharply in the next tender round, due to be announced in October.

However Mr Bruce Garden, divisional manager of the Fisher and Paykel group said that consumers would decide whether the premiums were too high. Fisher and Paykel paid \$731,228 in premiums.

"Sometimes the public is a bit fickle in that respect, when you see what they will pay for a BMW car, for example," he said.

He said Fisher and Paykel would use its licences to add to the variety of its stereo and video equipment, helping to meet a growing demand for high-quality television sets to go with video recorders.

It will also use some of the licences to import television sets adapted for Television New Zealand's new teletext service, before Fisher and Paykel starts producing these sets itself.

Other industry sources said New Zealanders had snapped up about 4000 teletext sets since the service was introduced on February 1. Most were made in New Zealand by Philips and Thorn-EMI.

They said the high premiums and the devaluation meant that Fisher and Paykel would have to charge at least \$100 more for its imports than the \$1800 retail price of locally made sets.

The assistant director of the Consumers' Institute, Mr David Russell, said the high premiums "must call into question the efficiency of the local industry," if imports were still not much dearer than the local product.

But the managing director of Fisher and Paykel, Mr Don Rowlands, said that "patriots" would support employing New Zealanders and developing their electronic skills.

CSO: 4200/2

PAPER REPORTS 78-PERCENT TRADE DEFICIT REDUCTION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Sep 84 p 19

[Text]

He said that all product groups of imports, except miscellaneous items, decreased, accounting for the high 22.7 percent decline in import trade.

Capital goods, according to him, led the way with a decline of 35.5 percent, followed by consumer goods, 35.0 percent; mineral fuel and lubricants, 26.8 percent; and raw materials and intermediate goods, 17.0 percent.

Lumauig said he foresees better prospects for Philippine exports this year, noting a 7.1 percent growth rate during the first semester of the year compared to the same period last year.

He said export re-

ceipts this year have already reached \$2.6 billion against the \$2.4 billion during last year's first semester.

He continued that performance of non-traditional exports is even more encouraging after posting a growth rate of 16.3 percent. Export earnings increased from \$1.5 billion to \$1.7 billion.

With these developments, Lumauig said exports' share to total trade increased from 39.38 percent to 47.38 percent while imports' share declined from 60.62 percent to 52.62 percent.

"The decline of imports by 22.7 percent greatly contributed to this development," he said.

The country's balance of trade deficit declined significantly by 78.0 percent during the first half of the year from \$1.3 billion during the same period in 1983 to \$285.78 million, Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Romulo B. Lumauig

said. tions on Nonoc island, Surigao del Norte; Bagacay, Samar; and Sipalay, Negros Occidental.

In a speech before the Philippine Council of Management (Philcoman) at the Manila Mandarin Hotel the other day, Lumauig said imports for the period dipped by 22.7 percent from \$3.0 billion to \$2.88 billion.

CSO: 4200/14

ECONOMISTS, BUSINESSMEN FORESEE SURVIVAL WITHOUT IMF LOANS

Quezon City VERITAS in English 16 Sep 84 p 15

[Article by Chit L. Macapaga: "The IMF Plan: Do We Need It or Not?"]

[Text] GOVERNMENT officials led by Prime Minister Cesar Virata, abetted by an army of government PROs, are singing only one tune: the cure for the country's economic crisis is the granting of an International Monetary Fund loan.

But, after almost a year of relentless pursuit, that loan remains elusive and unreachable.

To the 52 million Filipinos who must pay for the loan--if it is granted at all--the cost is increasing by the day, and they have become apprehensive. Their apprehensions, quite understandably, are shared by leading economic and business leaders because they see quite clearly what the strings attached to the loan are.

Is the loan really necessary considering that the economic recovery over the past ten months exceeded the expectations of the prophets of doom in our midst? Despite the massive layoffs and company shutdowns, the total collapse that many feared did not come about. Even as the economy is registering negative growth, there still are some industrial sectors which are expanding operations while many others are managing to survive.

Raul Concepcion, the business leader, says: "We have shown that we can survive. As a matter of fact, business and industry have even been able to increase foreign exchange earnings." The optimism is shared by UP economics associate professor Manuel Montes: "Now we are living within our means."

Many fear that the IMF loan could start a back slide. Says another UP economics professor Felipe Medalla: "Part of that (the loan) is going to finance old ways." Montes adds: "The government needs it, the people don't."

The IMF standby credit of 615 million special drawing rights (equivalent to US\$644.2 million) has been called the "seal of good housekeeping." MP Luis Villafuerte, member of the Batasang Pambansa finance committee, says: "We don't need the loan per se. But we need the approval so that the Philippines

can go back to being in good standing with the other international financing institutions."

It is general knowledge that once the IMF loan is approved, some US\$3.3 billion will be infused into the country's coffers coming in the form of new loans or of a restructuring of old debts from commercial bank creditors. Medalla offers some reservations: "Even if the IMF gives its seal, we are not sure that the other international lending banks will follow suit."

Montes, however, is more optimistic. Even without the IMF loan he is inclined to think that some banks or international financing institutions might want to deal with the Philippines directly. In agreement, Concepcion adds that, as a matter of fact, some form of direct negotiations are already happening right now.

What if the country does not get the loan?

Montes foresees a scenario that is not as dismal as many imagine. "There will be major suppliers who still see the Philippines as a potent market for their raw materials," he says. This is evidenced by the fact that suppliers of raw materials for various industries here have agreed to major concessions just to keep their interests going.

As to the conduct of the IMF loan negotiations, MP Villafuerte comments: "We are not bargaining hard enough and we are conceding points which we should argue against." Montes also rates the negotiations as soft: "The government negotiates not from the point of view of national interest." Villafuerte adds that instead of cutting down on government expenditures, the national leaders have resorted to new or additional taxes on the people. He says: "The government austerity program is merely a pronouncement. There is no such thing."

Contrary to the standard government line that the IMF loan will speed up our economic recovery, economists see its approval as just the start of more problems. Half of the said amount is already tabled for the payment of arrearages while the other half will be given on a staggered basis over a period of ten months.

Economist Bernardo Villegas described the disbursement of the loan as a "painfully slow process" and says that "economically it (the IMF loan) means nothing." MP Villafuerte agrees, saying that the restructuring of a loan "is not a solution although ideally it should give any country a fresh start."

The apprehensions surrounding the approval of the IMF loan stems from a fear that the fresh funds would once again be mismanaged. Medalla says that "Knowing the history of this government, we know that money is almost always not applied to where it is needed."

In spite of these fears, the fact remains that the country has come face to face with the problem of maturing foreign debts, to which only an approval of

the IMF loan would provide an immediate solution. "That is why it is hard to argue with Prime Minister Virata on whether we need the IMF loan or not," amits Medalla.

But most economists would rather see a postponement of the country's loan payment, at least until the economy is strengthened. For Medalla believes that "if we solve this maturity of loans problem, our business and industry can survive even without the IMF loan."

Only a year ago, everybody wanted the country to get that loan. But not anymore. Why the change in heart? Perhaps the discipline that everybody has had to learn has provided the Filipino the fortitude he had needed badly to go with his much-vaunted resiliency. Which is probably why many look at last year's immediate economic recovery formula differently.

CSO: 4200/14

LANAO NPA HIT LIST, 7-MONTH CAMPAIGN UNCOVERED

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 7 Sep 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Iligan City--The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) through its military arm the New People's Army (NPA) has marked 16 ranking military and government officials in the two Lanao provinces for liquidation from June 15 to December 15, this year.

Declassified information also revealed the CPP will engage in a seven-month reign of terror in Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur provinces during this period, according to Col. Abraham Manuel, commander of the Philippine Army's two-third brigade based in Iligan City.

Manuel said the CPP-NPA plot was revealed in documents seized by the Army from 10 Communist terrorists captured last month in several encounters with the military in Iligan City and Lanao del Norte.

These documents, Manuel said revealed a CPP-NPA committee, the "Teritoryo Partisano Komite" (TPK) activated in Iligan City last June to engage in black propaganda inciting people to rebel against the government.

Manuel said results of tactical apprehensions also disclosed that an armed CPP unit under the TPK identified as "Hingpit Yunit Partisano" (HYP) had been tasked to assassinate 16 ranking government and military officials in the city and the province.

Under the seven-month CPP terror campaign, the TPK will establish alliance with city residents in Iligan establish safe houses and contacts, and orient prospective sympathizers on the importance of mass base operations.

While the HYP is tasked to execute government and military officials, the same will take part in massive propaganda campaign in the area, Manuel added.

He said the HYP will also conduct counter-intelligence surveillance against government intelligence operatives.

The same documents also identified 16 others personalities from the professional and business sector and workers as allegedly supporting the CPP-NPA cause in the area, Manuel said.

According to Manuel, the overall CPP plan in Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte is to expand its organization and conduct tactical offensive in Lanao's rural and urban centers.--(PNA)

CSO: 4200/7

DAVAO DAILY LAUDS OPPOSITION ROLE IN BATASAN

Davao MP's Excel

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Sep 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Courageous Opposition"]

[Text] The constituents of Davao have something to be happy about, especially as regards their elected representatives in the Batasang Pambansa. Not only have they maintained their respective political identities, they too have shown the prowess of being at par with the best legislators this country has.

Of irony, however, the opposition has been construed by pro-administration detractors as "useless babblers", a monicker which, incidentally, seems to have boomeranged to many a ruling party parliament member.

Despite the setbacks the opposition has been getting during party voting in the Batasan hall, it has not been cowered, nor bawled out from the imputations of the ruling party. Maintaining the complacency and the strength of determination, it has withstood the early storm inside the legislative halls and against their tormentors.

But the opposition is not without its pitfalls. Many of them are in fact not eloquent and can hardly be seen deliberating on the floor, but they are so few as to be considered a deterrent to the thrusts of the opposition inside the Batasang Pambansa.

For those from Davao, they have excelled and have received enough plaudits from their oppositors, and they are optimistic that this attitude will stay for too long to benefit the desire of the people of Davao and its suburbias.

Even if the opposition members are anti-administration fellows, they too find merit in their crusade as this will help check the government from continually perpetrating the various abuses done by those in the fiefdom. The President and his cronies may construe it as a healthy sign for a parliamentary government, but it will similarly hurt the objectives of moving along reforms without the intrusion of anti-administration forces.

If the opposition has lived to its name of being a potent force against monopoly and corruption, the people are to be congratulated; they have elected men whose courage and perseverance in the face of detractors have been unflinched and unwavering.

For how long will the strength of the opposition stay, it depends largely on the unity it has and the determination it perseveres to pursue. No less than the government needs its presence and guts to forestall discrepancies.

Batasan Change Noted

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 9 Sep 84 pp 2, 9

[Article by Tony Vn. Figueroa in the "Footprints" column: "How the Batasan Is Working"]

[Text] Constitution Hills, Quezon City--Months after the regular Batasang Pambansa opened, the going for ruling party parliament members; the opposition, in an effort to live up to its name as fiscalizers, have never budged an inch to the caprices of the KBL. In fact, as MP Aquilino Pimentel once told a Davao media audience, "they have to sweat it out!"

In representation, Davao seems to be thankful and gratified; all the persons the populace have elected have shown exceptional efficiency and undaunted expertise in interpellating KBL pillars on the floor. Note that for the PDP-LABAN, MP Douglas Cagas literally shredded to pieces Budget Minister Alba's stance and categorically dishevelled Defense Minister Enrile's premises on the state of the national defense budget. For all his retorts and repartees, the independent newspaper, Malaya, editorialized the man from Davao del Sur.

Most KBL MPs concede that Nene Pimentel is one of sheet guts and courage; undaunted by any power play, the former mayor of Cagayan de Oro, in all the eloquence one can find in man, takes himself to the floor and starts breaking ruling party foundations. No one knows where he gets his courage, but he is just an admirable man who does not know fear.

The state of the Batasan has changed so much since the opposition MPs have felt their presence here. In fact, those vaunted KBL men who were very active during the first chapter of the legislative body, are having butterflies in their stomachs; they know just too well that a minute mistake on the floor, can send the whole opposition grilling KBL proponents.

Somehow, despite the improvement in the nature of Batasan deliberations, unmannered and dumbfounded opposition still splatter the hall; they include of course the ruling party 'mutes' who are referred to beautifully as the 'silent congregation'; their names are only heard whenever a colleague from the party takes the floor and includes the name of the MP as co-sponsor.

FORMER MNLF ASSEMBLYMAN URGES NPA AMNESTY

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 13 Sep 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Timely Message"]

[Text]

Mr. Candu I. Muarip, a Member of Parliament representing Basilan in Mindanao, used to be a well-known leader of the Muslim National Liberation Front (MNLF). He went down from the hills of Basilan with his followers, surrendered and was given amnesty by the President. He ran for the regular National Assembly on May 14 under the Concerned Citizens Aggrupation Party (CCAP) and was elected.

Last Aug. 30, he stood up on a question of personal privilege at the Batasan Pambansa and delivered a speech which contains a very timely and important message, a message which, if heeded by our government, could solve the communist insurgency problem which the President himself has admitted to be "on the rise."

Said Assemblyman Muarip: "Corollary to this, the government should also grant amnesty to the members of the Communist Party and the NPA. If amnesty can be given to members of the MNLF, there is no reason why it cannot be given to the NPAs. After all, they are Filipinos. But I suggest that the amnesty be given first before they come out and not after, in order to reassure them that the government is sincere. I believe that the elusive pursuit of national unity and reconciliation can be achieved through this process."

"Just like the Muslim rebels, the NPAs merely want to share the benefits of government and institute reforms among those at

the corridors of power. If the administration feels proud in having established diplomatic relations with socialist and communist nations, welcoming their delegates who are known to be communist cardbearers, I cannot see why it is afraid of Filipino communists.

"The party in power claims to have the mandate of the people and yet the administration appears reluctant to govern them. It also claims that it has the confidence of the people, yet it remains distrustful of them. Is the government not showing its weakness by continuing this kind of policy?

"It is through the grant of amnesty that this humble proponent was able to become a member of this Parliament although it was granted only after I came out of the woods. This was the risk that many of my comrades had to take. . .

"Luckily, President Marcos granted our group amnesty. . . But certainly, it would have a more far-reaching effect if the amnesty can be granted to Muslim and Christian rebels so that together we can all work to make this beautiful country worth not only living in but also dying for."

The Basilan assemblyman speaks with authority because his words are rooted in experience gained from years of life as an MNLF commander. President Marcos and other policymakers of the government should listen to and consider his message and give it the serious consideration it deserves.

CARDINAL SIN URGES GOVERNMENT DIALOGUE WITH POOR

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 13 Sep 84 p 3

[Article by Noel Bartolome]

[Text]

Jaime Cardinal Sin vowed Tuesday to exhaust all efforts to arrange a dialog between President Marcos and representatives of the urban poor to solve the squatter problem. Among the major issues to be tackled will be the government policy for the resettlement of squatters.

Cardinal Sin told the officers of the Coalition of The Urban Poor Against Poverty (CUPAP) that he will urge the government to suspend the demolition of squatters' houses.

He made the assurance in a meeting with the CUPAP and officers of the Bishop-Businessmen Conference (BBC) held at Villa San Miguel, Manila.

He suggested, though, that the proposed dialog be first referred to Metro Manila Vice Governor Ismael Mathay Jr.

CUPAP Chairman Eduardo Guazon said the urban poor sees the need for a direct dialog with the President since Gaudencio Tobias, general manager of the National Housing Authority (NHA), has refused to meet directly with their representatives.

He said the urban poor sector has found government policy on the resettlement issue to be highly arbitrary.

CSO: 4200/14

LEAN ON PRESIDENT'S, PRIME MINISTER'S SPOUSES IN OFFICE SOUGHT

Quezon City ANG PAHAYACANG MALAYA in English 13 Sep 84 p 1

[Article by Ben Evardone]

[Text] Two opposition lawmakers asked yesterday the regular National Assembly to prohibit the appointment or election of the wife of the President or the Prime Minister during his term of office to evade "recurrence of the experience of the Philippines and Argentina."

"What is happening to the Philippines and what happened to Argentina as a result of wives of Presidents occupying positions in the government should not revisit this country again," said MP's Homobono Adaza (Mindanao Alliance-Misamis Oriental) and Douglas Cagas (PDP-Laban-Davao del Sur) in their explanatory note to Parliamentary Bill No. 1187.

At the same time, at least 39 members of the coalesced minority led by Adaza signed a motion asking the Batasan to withdraw its confidence from Prime Minister Cesar Virata and his cabinet.

Adaza and Cagas noted that "unnecessary interference of wives or husbands in public affairs, especially if the wife or husband is appointed or elected to public office has tremendous destructive possibilities."

First Lady, Imelda Romualdez Marcos, has been reappointed as Human Settlements Minister and Metro Manila Governor.

The vote of "no confidence" was triggered by the reported admission of Virata that "many big projects financed or guaranteed by the government have failed because of the inability of policy-makers to assess their future viability at the start" which resulted to the loss of billions of pesos of government money and caused the present economic crises.

CSO: 4200/14

COLUMNIST ON BATASAN INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Sep 34 p 4

[Article by Joaquin R. Roces in the "This Is My Own" column: "On Legislative Copycats"]

[Text] There is a proposal to create within the Batasan an investigative committee granting unto said committee all the powers necessary for it to look into all the official acts and transactions of the government.

This would mean that the committee could, acting muto propio, issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum, call upon said witnesses to testify under oath, and punish any such witnesses who refuse to testify, for contempt.

It is a meritorious proposal because it brings to the forefront the fact that the duly-elected members of the Batasan are entitled not only to the spoon-fed information given to them by the Executive Branch but to all the information, all of the time, as a matter of right.

The Batasan, if it must be both effective and truly representative, must legislate wisely, and this it can do only if it has access to all the information that is pertinent and necessary for both remedial and constructive legislation. Without all this information, it would be legislating either blindly or by means of outside direction.

There will be those, outside and inside the Batasan, who will contend that such a committee would be duplicating work that belongs to the Executive branch of the government principally, but then the Executive Branch of the government has a very poor track record when it comes to investigating itself. And besides, if the Batasan can share its legislative power with the Chief Executive by virtue of Amendment 6, then the Executive could find no reason to object to the Batasan exercising one of its clearly rightful prerogatives.

There is one minor objection we have to the proposal, however. And that is its being called the Blue Ribbon Committee.

To call it the Blue Ribbon Committee would mean copying the name from the former Senate Blue Ribbon Committee which in turn copied the name from the US Senate Blue Ribbon Committee. We should be able to have enough imagination and originality to provide the Committee with a name that is the Batasan's own.

In the Fourth Congress (1957-1961) because of the prevalence of anomalies in the government then, such a committee was created by the then House of Representatives. The proposal was sponsored by then Majority Floor Leader Justiniano Montano, who in the words of former Senator Claro M. Recto himself, was together with the late Cipriano Primicias, one of the really true parliamentarians that we ever produced. It was likewise proposed then that the investigative committee with all its vast powers be called the House Blue Ribbon Committee.

It was then when one of the more nationalistic members of Congress objected to the House of Representatives being a copycat of the Senate which then had its own Blue Ribbon Committee which was a copycat of the US Senate Blue Ribbon Committee.

It was Justiniano Montano then that proposed that it be called the Committee on Good Government since the purpose behind it all was for the betterment of the government. We had no idea during the deliberations that we would be appointed its first Chairman. In the Fifth Congress (1958-1961), we were to be succeeded by Jovito Salonga who went on to become a Senator.

It took us Filipinos 35 years to call our own Congress the Batasan. This proposed Committee, important as it is, could be the first Committee to be Filipinized if we were to call it the Batasan's Lupon sa Mabuting Pamahalaan, or Lupon sa Katapatan sa Panunungkulan, or any other Filipinized name. And the name itself would define for all of us Filipinos the objective of the committee.

And we would not be accused of being legislative copycats.

CSO: 4200/14

COLUMNIST ON FOUR PILLARS OF CIVILIZATION, AQUINO DREAM

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 15 Sep 84 p 4

[Article by Joaquin R. Roces in the "This Is My Own" column: "The Four Pillars"]

[Text] The first time we came across the word Alhambra, all it meant to us was a cigar. This was a time when we were too young even for a cigarette.

Alhambra was the most popular brand of cigars both for local consumption and for sale abroad. Cigars were one of our country's principal exports and the Alhambra Corona was considered one of the best in the world. That word Corona then stood for a popularly known 20-centavo cigar and not for a four cylinder Toyota.

In the Ilocos region, women would smoke the cheaper type of cigars with the lighted end in their mouths. The custom, it is said, originated with the lavanderas, or washer women, who did not want to get the lighted end of the cigar all wet while they were doing the washing in the river.

It is also said that Filipino propagandists sent to sell our cigars abroad would spread the rumor that our cigars were hand rolled on the thighs of virgin brown women. This would boost the sales of our cigars among the men. In Europe and in the US, there were no such things as cigar-smoking women.

But since we were one of the few countries in the world known to maintain a leper colony in Culion, rival foreign cigar manufacturers are said to have whispered around that our cigars were actually handrolled by lepers. If such reports are true, it clearly shows that business can be just as dirty as good old fashioned politics.

Later on, we learned that Alhambra was not just a cigar brand and the name of the biggest cigar manufacturer in the Orient then. The Alhambra actually was an exquisite palace built in the City of Granada by the Moors who occupied Southern Spain for two centuries. Luckily, we were one day to witness for ourselves the grandeur of what is architecturally considered to be one of the most beautiful man-made structures on earth.

And yet the memory we have always kept in our mind of the city of Granada has never been the awesome splendor of that palace, but that of a few simple words we found inscribed on an arch in the entrance to the Moorish Academy found in that same city.

We have always been fascinated by words,--the simpler ones,--their power--and how they can sometimes contain encapsulated in a few lines, or in one sentence, the wisdom of the ages.

For there on that arch, we found the following inscribed: "The civilization of the world rests on four pillars: The wisdom of the learned; the justice of the great; the prayers of the good; and the valor of the brave."

These are the pillars on which a race of people build a nation. Not on bridges, roads, and infrastructure mostly made of concrete and steel. Not on a paper constitution intended principally to deceive. Not on foreign loans, nor outside assistance, or even sheer military strength. Not on increased wealth and trade that produces the kind of prosperity that is not evenly distributed.

A leader can claim greatness only if he is just. If on any given subject he listens to the wisest in the land and not the closest to his bed. For otherwise, he would be building the nation on sand.

Valor is a fundamental ingredient in nation building. The brave young men and women who are now marching in the streets and risking their lives and their limbs will one day change this nation and become one of the four pillars upon which it will be built.

And as for the prayers of the good, we need them, because only those who believe in something else other than our bodily existence can ever fashion a worthwhile dream.

Cory Aquino tells us that her daughter Kris, reputed to be the most intelligent among Ninoy Aquino's children, ran to her one early morning to say: "Mommy, I dreamt that daddy was born again. I saw him in my dream as he was being born."

"Kris," said her mother, "you know that that could not be. And besides, if it was a child you saw, how could you tell that it was your daddy?", this she added with a little impatience.

"But Mother," Kris whispered, in all her innocence, "he was wearing his glasses."

CSO: 4200/14

BATASAN OFFICIAL SEES MNLF 'SOLUTION' THIS YEAR

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Sep 84 p 11

[Text] Speaker Promtempore Salipada Pendatun expressed optimism yesterday that the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) problem in the south will be solved within this year.

Meeting with the Batasan Press Breakfast Club, Pendatun said he will leave today for Pakistan to attend the World Muslim Congress in Islamabad and present the Philippine government's position on the Tripoli Agreement.

Pendatun assured that if President Marcos will give full support and cooperation, peace will return to Mindanao and Sulu in a few months.

The Muslim legislator said the reason he is confident that the MNLF problem can be solved earlier is the fact that "we (the Muslims) are just waiting for President Marcos to come up with a just solution to the MNLF question."

He said this has been the position of the Muslim countries, as represented by the Organization of the Islamic Ministers conference this year.

Pendatun noted that the President has not fully implemented the Tripoli Agreement because of failure of the foreign-based MNLF leaders to unite. He said the President does not know what faction to deal with on the question.

He proposed that if the MNLF leaders abroad cannot unite, he will present the Philippine government's position to the Islamic conference, with the support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to allow Muslim leaders in the Philippines and MNLF leaders who have not surrendered, to negotiate directly with the President so that the Tripoli Agreement can be implemented unilaterally.

CSO: 4200/14

VERITAS ON VIRATA'S ROLE AS 'SCAPEGOAT,' 'LIGHTNING ROD'

Quezon City VERITAS in English 16 Sep 84 p 7

[Article by Luis D. Beltran in the "Straight From the Shoulder" column: "The KBL Scapegoat and FM Lightning Rod"]

[Text]

PRIME Minister Cesar Virata has served notice that he's through being the KBL's scapegoat and a Marcos lightning rod. In successive speeches, Virata has advocated the removal of the President's Constitutional bulletproof vest, the 1973 Constitution, by advocating its review and re-structuring. He also says he is just going to "take the country over the hump" and "*bahala na*" what happens afterwards. Within the Cabinet itself, Virata has not exactly been idle. He was behind the removal of the coconut levy, the recovery of almost half a billion pesos in casino taxes from a crony-owned private bank and was the man behind the take-over of many crony firms by the government. The trouble is, Virata is deceptively quiet, which exasperates many of his admirers and encourages his enemies within the Byzantine court run by the Marcoses and Romualdez. Virata is currently the object of a "de-glamorization campaign" by prospective opponents in 1987 who see him as the moderates' hope for the presidential elections. That's why the crony press is the one hacking away at him.

* * *

Bulletin Today reported that President Marcos went to the typhoon-ravaged area in "the Maharlika presidential jet" and distributed "some P2-million out of his personal funds." The *Express* reported that he "distributed cash amounting to P2-million from the calamity fund," P50,000 to each governor, P20,000 for each city mayor and P10,000 for each municipal mayor. By simply reading news items, you

learn so much. First, there is now a presidential jet named Maharlika, when before the President used to patronize PAL. How can we blame one KKK official for wanting his own Lear Jet? Second, even to Malacañang reporters, there is a blurring of what constitutes the President's personal funds and what constitutes calamity funds. Third, we might as well scrap all the government relief agencies like the Ministry of Social Services when the President himself distributes cash to local officials — all of whom are facing an election in fifteen months' time.

* * *

By all means, let us contribute to helping out the typhoon-ravaged people in the provinces, but let us make sure we don't transform the relief into political aid for the next elections. There are enough private relief agencies involved in the work — and almost a billion in calamity funds distributed all over the national budget for the government to distribute. If you are a private individual, contribute to a private relief or fund drive — you'll be sure your contribution will get there without the KBL wrapper around it.

* * *

PAL crews will soon be using uniforms designed by Marcos-Araneta wedding couturier Italian Renato Balestra. Picketers may have prevented Balestra's fashion show but he will make several hundred thousands of dollars from the PAL contract. Filipino couturiers, who have won international awards, are obviously

not good enough for PAL president Roman Cruz Jr. That's why Singaporean crews look like Singaporeans, Malaysian crews like Malaysians, Thais like Thais — our Filipino crews look like Italian immigrants. Just think, PAL lost P2.3-billion last year. Now you know why.

* * *

What's holding back the IMF loans? It seems the Central Bank can't account for the whereabouts of some P20-BILLION in the money supply. The CB has tried everything — from JOBO bills to increased reserve requirements, but they don't know where the "missing" P20-billion is located. Perhaps a house to house search of the residences of government officials from the Cabinet down?

* * *

Prime Minister Cesar Virata refused to implement a Letter of Instruction issued by President Marcos condoning some ONE BILLION PESOS in debts owed by a crony-owned bank to the Central Bank. Can you imagine what foreign bankers must think about us, when the President issues a law allowing a private bank to wiggle out from under a Central Bank obligation?

Despite all the lamentations over the country's foreign debt, how come President Marcos has not ordered the investigation of people who borrowed short-term loans guaranteed by the Philippine government — and who ran off with the money?

That newsman whom the Marcos boys criticized for writing an "advance" story on the findings of the Agrava board is Lewis Simons, correspondent of the 200-newspaper syndicate called Knight-Ridder newspapers. Simons is based in Tokyo and has been writing since 1967. While it is true that he was expelled from India by Indira Gandhi, it was during the period of extreme censorship. He was subsequently invited back as a "conquering hero" when Gandhi's government was overthrown — and invited back by the Gandhi government again. He now goes in and out of India. By journalistic standards — Simons is a respected journalist, not the wild-eyed "parachutist" we have been led to picture.

* * *

At a recent KBL caucus, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile complained to President Marcos that the KBL in the Batasan needed a "research bureau" to counter the well-researched and well-documented attacks of the Opposition. It isn't research that's needed. Opposition men study, while KBL assemblymen are too busy enjoying power and what it brings.

* * *

In all the wailing and lamentations over the foreign debt, how come President Marcos has not ordered the investigation or the filing of charges against people who borrowed short-term loans guaranteed by the Philippine government — and who ran off with the money? Not one — repeat — not one has been charged. The President can't — or won't?

MALAYA DRAWS VIETNAM PARALLELS WITH CORDILLERAS CAMPAIGN

Quezon City ANG PAILYAGANG MALAYA in English 16 Sep 84 pp 3,6

[Article by Bonifacio A. Bengawayan Jr.]

[Text] BUGNAY, Kalinga-Apayao (DEPTInews)--The escalating anti-insurgency campaign being waged by the military in the Cordillera upland provinces is causing unwanted results reminiscent of the Vietnam war.

Such a summation is from ongoing documentation by religious groups on effects of the military operations on daily life of tribal minorities who people the North Luzon uplands.

Among the unwanted results are the uprooting of whole villages, serious disruptions in economic activities, separation of families, some cases of abuses on the part of the soldiers and the terror caused on whole communities by the sight of military weaponry including helicopter gunships.

The record gathering is being made by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines through its Task Force Detainees, the Anglican Church and other religious denominations doing missionary work in the Cordilleras.

Provinces making up the North Luzon uplands are Abra, Benguet, Ifuagao, Kalinga-Apayao and Mountain Province, all of which are covered by the military operations.

Combined population of the five provinces as of the 1980 census totalled 914,432. Ethnic minorities make up majority of such a population.

The religious are there to assist both the civilian provincial authorities and the military in protecting the tribes which are caught in the middle of the ongoing confrontation between the insurgents and members of the Armed Forces.

The military early this year escalated its anti-insurgency efforts to deny the insurgents continued use of the Cordillera mountains as base of operations and as haven. The issue is still pending.

A top worry of civilian, military and religious authorities is the incessant complaints of the highlanders against alleged abuses being perpetrated by certain military forward units.

Sector commanders of the military have issued strict orders for their personnel to protect the civilian population as well as respect human rights but complaints about the alleged military abuses continue to pour in.

Among complaints are destruction of crops, stealing of poultry and livestock, curtailment of movement, harassment and threats of interrogation on suspicion of being a "subversive."

The religious groups also cited the "shock" caused on communities by the sight of large bodies of troops "armed to the teeth" and in some cases, the forcible evacuation of whole villages which happen to be located in so-called combat zones.

Another problem recorded by the religious is that of communications. It was learned that most of the troops thrown into the Cordillera operations came from other parts of the country and do not know the dialect of the uplanders.

Such a lack of communication has led to many cases of misunderstanding, most of the time at the expense of the tribal members, according to the documentation.

One case, which the military is still investigating, involved members of a military unit who allegedly forced residents of a village to bow whenever they meet any soldier, recalling abuses perpetrated on Filipinos by the Japanese occupation forces during the Pacific War.

The religious also reported that families in the villages are often terrified by military visitors who ask such questions as: "So, your son is an insurgent?", "Is your son hiding from the law?", and "Why don't you surrender so there will be peace in the valley?"

Such questions compel many of the families to leave their villages for other places they consider safe and in the process disrupting their daily economic activities.

Increasing presence of the military in the Cordilleras--reports claim four battalions have been fielded in the area--has spread fear and suspicion among the residents. Those who did not move out of their villages have armed themselves for protection, according to the religious.

Provincial and military officials are trying to allay such fears by going to great lengths to explain to the people that the military effort is to preserve peace and order in their communities.

However, such an explanation is lost on people who question why they are banned by the military from tending their fields, are hauled in for questioning when they come home late at night, and why soldiers steal their chickens and livestock.

It was explained by the military that restriction of movement of people does not apply to all of the Cordilleras but only in specified areas which have

been marked as "insurgent territory" and that it is part of the strategy to starve out the rebels.

To help solve problems being caused by the military operations, the religious recommended that more village level dialogues be conducted between the village elders, municipal and provincial officials and the military so that prompt solutions can be adopted.

The religious also called for more troop information efforts to make soldiers fielded in the Cordilleras realize that "they are not an occupation force," but friends out to protect of the people.

CSO: 4200/14

PUBLISHER ANNOUNCES NEW FORMAT FOR OPPOSITION WEEKLY

Makati MR. & MS. in English 18 Sep 84 p 5

[Statement by Eugenia D. Apostol, editor in chief/publisher, on new editorial format: "Changing Gears"]

[Text] Dear Reader,

Last week's issue, 52nd of the Series for Justice and Reconciliation marked a milestone for us: a full year of weekly documentation of the Aquino assassination aftermath. We came to a point where an assessment was in order: to continue or not?

From informal reader surveys and from the rhythm of circulation figures, the answers and the charts readily pointed to a Yes, by all means. But from the publisher's chair, the view did not seem so clear.

For one, the Agrava Board decision would soon be out--and that's half of our reason for existence removed. Would reader interest keep up even after? For another, national reconciliation seemed so remote we were often made to feel rather foolish about advocating it.

What then could our reason or reasons be for continuing to publish this Special Edition? We had nursed the "yellow fever" brought on by the pro-Aquino enthusiasts for nine months (Sept. '83 to May '84) and when that fever broke on Election Day in May, it brought forth the sweat of a great moral victory over the repressive regime.

But that victory was just one step up the difficult climb to final restoration of democracy and justice. Even then we saw the need to change gears in order to climb higher over ever-more difficult terrain. This meant veering away from the more emotional to the issue-oriented aspects of the climb. Looking forward to the opening of Parliament, we prepared for the discussions on Amendment 6, on Impeachment, on the Dismantling of the Monopolies, on the Survival of the Militarized and Colonized Filipino, etc.

In doing so, we found our desks flooded with letters and material that have gone to pieces like "Our 12-year Orgy of Borrowing", "PNOC Comes Under Fire from Citizens' Group", "NEPA Wants P.D. 1892 Out", "I have Seen the Enemy and

the Enemy is Us", "U.P. Profs Beam Into Philippine Hole", "When Life Costs P23" and "Once More with Feeling for Nationalist Economics", and, of course "Deadly Gamble at the Nuclear Plant".

As a result, we find ourselves--along with other independent media, to be sure--now being quoted in newly-organized fora of civic and study groups and most especially in the committee hearings in the Batasan Pambansa. Since there are issues galore--lying dormant these many years because of the reluctance of the regime to discuss these openly--we feel called upon to continue lending this small magazine to this particular kind of role. Presumptuous? Of course. But we hope never to be blamed for not trying.

With this changing role, we are adopting a new (really old and traditional) system of numbering the weekly issues, from 52nd of a Series to Vol. II No 1 (a weekly magazine changes its volume number every 52 weeks). We are dropping "For Justice and National Reconciliation" on the cover (but not in our hearts) and simply calling this Special Edition. To differentiate this further from the Regular Edition (out every Tuesday at P5 the copy), a new editorial staff box will also be noted.

A new section, too, will be devoted to regional-national news that will hope to give our readers a one-country feeling, a sense of belonging to one nation, a sense of oneness with other citizens in our all-too-scattered archipelago. Read all about it next week, when Latty reveals more specific editorial plans.

Sincerely yours,

/s/Eugenia D. Apostol

Editor-in-Chief/Publisher

CSO: 4200/14

ARTICLE ON NAMFREL PLANS TO REMAIN ACTIVE

Makati MR. & MS. in English 18 Sep 84 p 31

[Article by Candy L. Quimpo: "NAMFREL After Elections: Making the Difference"]

[Text]

DURING the COMELEC's budget presentation, Opposition members of the Batasan's Appropriations Committee extolled the NAMFREL's participation in the May 14 polls. "On the contrary," COMELEC Chairman Vicente Santiago countered, "there were many instances when NAMFREL gave us problems."

"In my province," grimaced MP Pacificador in agreement, "people (called it) TAMPFREL."

Bombarded on all sides by both laurels and administration flak, NAMFREL is again swinging into action. At a "Bantay ng Bayan" luncheon recently, Metro Manila Regional Director Christian Monsod explained, "We want to ask the media people whether we are on the right track."

NAMFREL's new slogan "We can make the difference!" has been difficult to translate into the vernacular for provincial chapters. Nevertheless, the message is clear: elections is not the only issue NAMFREL is concerned with. As self-avowed national guardians, the citizen's group pinpoints four

vital issues to be tackled in the coming weeks:

- *the restoration of NAMFREL as citizen arm
- *the enactment of a new Election Code
- *the support of teachers' demands
- *a plebiscite on Amendment No. 6

In the planning stage is a huge Citizens' Rally on Oct. 19, at Ugarte Field. A week later, the rally will be replayed in various provinces all over the country. Various activities will provide a build-up to the big event — mini-forums at schools, churches, and other gathering places.

Notable in NAMFREL's "making a difference" goal is the inclusion of teachers in the agenda of issues to be raised. "NAMFREL got a lot of praise after elections but a lot of people forgot that another major help in the elections was the courage and dedication of public school teachers. We owe them a lot . . ." Monsod said, indicating the petition to support teachers' demands for pay increases

to the level of just compensation in addition to independence in discharging their responsibilities as chairmen of the Citizens Election Committees.

Citizens' petitions are now being passed around for signatures containing the four issues under petition. Already, a hundred organizations ranging from the Bishops-Businessmen's Conference for Human Development to the Ceramics Association of the Philippines have volunteered their participation.

"There's a need to sustain action," said Joe Concepcion, apparently referring to the volunteers who had been wholeheartedly involved in the last elections. NAMFREL volunteers, chapters,

and sympathizers thus get a chance to renew their commitment to the movement. "We feel there's a gap," added Monsod, "there were some people left out of the process. We are trying to mobilize those who don't really go to rallies — organize them at the community level, so as to make it more meaningful to them. "The Bantay ng Bayan Program would also serve as a vehicle for developing NAMFREL organizations in areas of the country where it had minimal or no presence in the last election.

COMELEC grumblings or not, NAMFREL is alive and well and raring for another go at yanking every citizen out to be counted.

M.M

CSO: 4200/14

DAVAO PAPER COMPARES MARCOS, MACHIAVELLI

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 11 Sep 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Four hundred forty-eight years before President Ferdinand E. Marcos saw light, Florence's greatest political genius, was born in 1469. This was the man whom the present president seems to admire most as reflected in the concepts that the administration wants to institute.

Although both are educationally and economically two poles apart, the significance of both figures today do not differ much, save for the fact that Machiavelli was born in the fifteenth century and he was the predecessor of one of the most revolutionary ideas of his time of which Marcos has, curiously, expanded.

In "How the Duke of Valentinois Killed Vitellozzo Vitellozzi and Oliverotto da Fermo (1530)" Machiavelli "attempts to establish the relation between an act of treason and bloodshed, and the tranquility that followed." This concept is aptly paraphrased by the President when he wrote in his book, Today's Revolution: Democracy: "The poignant wish for a tranquil life will find no sanctuary in today's world. We live in a revolutionary era. It is an era of swift, violent, often disruptive change, and rather than lament this vainly, we have to decide whether we should be the masters or victims of change."

Oddly, the resemblance, or the similarity of Marcos' philosophy with Machiavelli is not really an onerous information for political students. Leaders, through generations, have always contrived with the power of Machiavelli's political concept and the requirement for a transformation of a society to suit present demands.

Machiavelli, popularly called the "prince" after his book of the same title, has adopted in his tome, "The Discourses of First Ten Books of Titus Livy" (1513) that the principles of a new science of statesmanship based on the experience of human events and history is exigent. And this looks the same philosophy by which Marcos is implementing his New Society. One, in fact, he wrote: "This society that we live is of our own making. The fault is not in our stars but in ourselves." (The Democratic Revolution in the Philippines, p. 93).

The prince's "The Art of War" (1521) also reflects a glaring copy of the Marcos militia which we see today. It talks about all sorts of improvements which hope to teach a nation on how to be "prepared for the defense of its liberty and independence. Obviously, the fundamental idea is that the best militia is formed by arming the people and repudiating the mercenary troops."

For Marcos, he has this dictum to advance: "Revolution, then, in whatever terms it is framed, under whatever principle, is fundamentally a moral act."

A look into the present setup, Machiavelli's militia is the present paramilitary forces (BSDU then, now ICHDF) and the "mercenary troops" are the BMA, NPA and the PLA--all rebel forces as identified by the military.

Machiavelli's "Life of Castruccio Castracani" seems to be a precognition and an ante-biography of Marcos; in it, it narrates about "the deeds of a daring soldier (which the President is acknowledged) and acute politician (of which Marcos is)". The story, in toto, personifies the political ideal of the soldier-politician.

To give the readers some of the controversial, if not in-depth, philosophical concept of President Marcos, the man many call the Dictator.

On society: "A society based on privilege is the inevitable result, to the extent that the masses themselves, following of those above them, seek their own meddling and often illusory 'privileges.' Corruption at the top is matched by social corruption below. The oligarchic elite manipulates the political authority and intimidates political leaders; the masses, in turn, perpetuate a populist, personalist, and individualist kind of politics."

On democratic institutions: "Democratic institutions, no matter how weak or corrupted by the social system, are a pre-condition for a democratic revolution, or what is called 'revolution from the center'. Its central problem, like that of the rebellion of the poor, is equality."

Machiavelli, proud of his originality, has some genial thoughts to share which, by far, are adopted by the present Philippine government, and are adopted conspicuously to the consternation of those who are branded as 'militants' and anti-administration.

Machiavelli's "The Prince" is in itself a statecraft of the highest degree, and it, interestingly, comprises of facts that are glaring and lucid to every Filipino.

Here are samples:

"Nothing is superior to the state, which is self-sufficient and absolutely supreme. One must love the state more than his own soul. No consideration of justice or unjustness, of cruelty or pity, of praise or shame, is to interfere with the decision of saving the state and preserving its freedom."

"Military power is the foundation and the strength of the state. Persuasion alone is not enough because men are bad and inconstant. They easily forget the favors they receive; they are always eager for changes. Only the prince (President) who has enough military power is able to maintain his dominion."

"Fortune is the arbiter of one half of human actions, the other half is directed by the will of men."

"To take advantage of opportunities at the right moment is also part of virtue."

When Machiavelli died, his grave bore this Latin inscription: Tanto homini nullum par elogium--(To such a man no praise is equal).

The prince's state philosophy might have been an intelligent concept borne out of factional strifes, but its implementation to our present state seems to have left deeper imprints of satisfaction which are shown by the way the government is moving and the action by which the administrators are perpetrating.

If Machiavelli and Marcos are coincidentally on the same wavelength, the former started it all, and Marcos is a mere echo.

But, nevertheless, both are good political copies, circa 1984.

CSO: 4200/7

CHURCH OPENS CONGRESS ON MARCOS GOVERNMENT ABUSES

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 17 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Article by Joel C. Paredes]

[Article] Some 200 foreign and local church leaders, joining a "unified church response to the struggle of the Filipino people," will start today an international ecumenical conference to expose alleged mounting human rights violations under the Marcos regime.

Dubbed the "International Ecumenical Conference on the Role of the Church in the Struggle of the Filipino people," the five-day gathering at the Sacred Heart Novitiate in Novaliches, Quezon City, will highlight the "International Solidarity Week."

The Ecumenical Partnership for International Concern (EPIC) said the congress delegates are expected to formulate a declaration based on the findings of the international fact-finding missions, here since Sept. 9 to probe human rights violations in the country.

The congress declaration will be signed before Sept. 21, the "International Day of Protest."

The congress is also expected to come to a common "understanding on the causes of the struggle of the Filipino people" and define "the specific role of the church in responding to the people's struggle."

Today, members of the international fact finding missions will assess and evaluate their findings in 12 provinces where human rights violations have reportedly mounted on the heels of intensified campaign by government troops.

The opening ceremonies will start at 7:30 p.m. with an invocation from bishop Antonino Nepomuceno, of the Communication Foundation for Asia (CFA).

Bishop Erme Camba, of the Ecumenical Bishop's Forum, will welcome participants.

Solidarity messages and greetings will be presented by the participants before Fr. Ben Moraleda, of the National Ecumenical Forum for Church Response, presents the conference objectives and programs based on its theme: "Struggle of the Filipino People a Challenge to the Church."

Tomorrow, Bishop Julio Labayen will lead the keynote address before the Congress participants start their workshops.

Workshop 1 includes sectoral dialogue clusters with fishermen-peasants, national minorities, workers, youth and students, teachers, women, artists, media, lawyers, urban poor, political detainees and health workers.

Lawyer Alex Padilla, secretary general of the Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy (NAJFD) will present an overview of the protest movement.

On Wednesday, the workshop II will focus on the responses and strategies for action.

The conference resolutions, statements and strategies for action will be finalized on Thursday.

CSO: 4200/14

COLUMNIST CRITICIZES MARCOS ISOLATION, MANILA STREET UPKEEP

Makati MR. & MS. in English 18 Sep 84 pp 37-39

[Article by Maximo V. Soliven in "The Last Word" column: "A TUTA-Litarian Government, and the Profits of Doom"]

[Excerpts

A RECENT survey showed that those polled regarded the so-called "*Sariling Sikap*" campaign of the government the most disliked of all. But why should the idea of "*Sariling Sikap*" or "Self-reliance" be sneered at? Is this concept not admirable or valid?

The awful truth is that our people are rejecting the singer, not the song. The New Society should have embraced a policy of "*Sariling Sikap*" from the very beginning. If Mr. Marcos and our leaders really believed in self-reliance, why did they borrow so many billions of dollars from abroad? We should have struggled, from the onset, to pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps. Do you know what one of the last privilege speeches of the late Sen. Ninoy Aquino was in 1972? Addressing the Senate, Ninoy assailed the fact that the Marcos regime had borrowed \$500 million from overseas — and was sinking this nation deeper and deeper into debt. If Mr. Marcos had listened to Ninoy then — we would now owe only five hundred million dollars. For criticisms like this, Aquino was instead slapped behind bars.

I used to maintain that this nation was groaning under the antics of sycophants and lap-dogs — a sort of *Tuta*-litarian regime. Today, the reality is far more grim. The President is a virtual prisoner of the Palace. The *cordon sanitaire* which surrounds him — a sort of military-civilian cabal — carefully screens even the reports and "feedback" that get to him. Mr. President, come out of your shell, push aside the whisperers and hot-heads, and learn the truth about what is happening in this country. You once pledged that this "nation can be great again." Right now, we'll simply settle for this nation eating again. The hour is late,

but it's not late for you to make the first forthright move of pulling our people back from the brink of the abyss. Ninoy once said that only Marcos can set the Philippines back on the road to freedom. Well, he's still right.

THE rumor is making the rounds that the Apo and the Batasan may agree to either reduce or completely scrap that unfair hike in vehicular registration fees or the so-called RUC (Road Users' Charge.) Anyway, what roads are they talking about? If the government were to impose a tax on potholes, it would be able to collect much more money — since there are more potholes and excavations than roads.

Metro Manila is the only place in the world in which I get seasick navigating the rutted roads, the innumerable potholes, and the never-filled-in ditches that seem to sprout overnight in the most congested thoroughfares. Will the government, once and for all, set a policy on agencies — from the Metropolitan Waterworks, the Public Works and Public Highways, the Meralco, the PLDT — acquiring a permit to dig? Everybody with a pick and shovel feels he has the right to dig up the road, and then leave the job unfinished for weeks or even months. Even private homeowners, eager to connect a bigger waterpipe, feel free to dig their way across a concrete or asphalt road, and then leave the damage they have done uncemented or merely covered with loose topsoil or gravel. In our unfortunate Republic, when it's not a case of corruption (contractors cutting corners on asphalt, cement and other materials, or running away with the work undone), it's anarchy.

I see them digging up roads, or excavating ditches in Japan, the U.S. and Europe, too. But when I drive by the same road or bridge a few days or a week or two later, I see that the work is done, the concrete or asphalt replaced, and traffic moving smoothly once again. What happens in our country? I've hit the same pothole on Taft avenue, near the corner of U.N. avenue, for the past two years. Sure, I may be a stupid driver — but don't you think they should have fixed that pothole by now?

OPPOSITION MPS FIGHT 1986 ELECTION DEFERRAL

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 18 Sep 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Ernie Arcenas]

[Text] Three opposition members of parliament here yesterday said they will vehemently oppose the ruling KBL party's move to defer the holding of local elections in 1986.

Member of Parliament Inday Nita Cortez Daluz said the KBL party headed by President Marcos is hatching this machiavelian political move to subvert the people's will through legislative fiat.

Daluz, Antonio Cuenco and Marcelo Fernan, all opposition assemblymen said they will bring to the bar of public opinion this bold political move by the ruling party.

The three opposition leaders reacted sharply to Parliamentary Bill No. 381 filed by Member of Parliament Antonio M. Diaz (KBL Zambales) which is an act synchronizing the election and term of office of local elective officials and members of the Batasang Pambansa and amending for the purpose the Local Government Code.

The proposed bill provides that the governor, vice-governor, city mayor, city vice-mayor, municipal vice-mayor and barangay officials shall be elected at large in their respective units by qualified voters therein, in the same election for members of the Batasang Pambansa. The next election for such local elective officials shall be held on the second Monday of May, 1990.

The original proposal was in the form of a resolution numbered twenty (20) also filed by Diaz last July 30, 1984. The resolution seeks to propose an amendment to the Constitution to synchronize the dates of the election for members of the Batasang Pambansa and elective local officials, including barangay councils from the years 1986 and 1988. Under existing laws, there will be four (4) elections in a period of four years beginning in 1986 to wit: 1. Election for the local elective officials of the provinces, cities and municipalities in 1986; 2. Election for President and Vice President in 1987; 3. Barangay elections in 1988 and 4. Election for members of the Batasang Pambansa in 1990. The resolution calls for an amendment to the Constitution by adding a new section to Article XI to be denominated as Section 6 which provides that the regular election of the

elective local officials shall be held on the second Monday of May 1990 and every six years thereafter with the Batasan acting as constituent assembly with said amendment to become valid as part of the Constitution when approved by a majority of the votes cast in an election/plebiscite held for the purpose.

However, the ruling party does away with the cumbersome resolution which calls for an amendment of the Constitution and instead replaced it with a bill which will amend last year's Local Government Code particularly subsection 1, Section 43 of the said code. Considering the sheer majority of the KBL in the BP, the bill is expected to pass handily.

MP Cuenco opined that the proposed bill is aimed to enhance the candidacy of President Marcos and his running mate in the presidential election of 1987 by retaining in office elective local officials majority of whom belongs to the ruling party. "This move will bolster the presidential bid of Marcos and through legislation assure their continued stay in power. I doubt if the people will like this callous move of the ruling party", Cuenco added. (eca)

CSO: 4200/7

EDITORIAL VIEWS PRESS-MILITARY RELATIONS

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 11 Sep 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Press and the Military: A Case of Trying To Understand"]

[Text] In a recent dialogue with members of local media, Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria, commanding officer of the Regional Unified Command, Region XI (RUC XI), asked the press to "understand the military" in what it is doing.

The first duty of the press is to be a purveyor of the truth. The truth may hurt, or it may cause joy. But what is important is that it is the truth. And the truth shall set us free. Hopefully.

If the military conducts searches without search warrants we do not understand, even we try to understand.

If the military goes to court against a person or persons, on subversion charges and the defendants--almost always, at least hereabouts--get acquitted for "insufficient evidence", the press tries to understand--but prints the stories just the same.

If the military issues statements pointing to unidentified "terrorists" as the culprits in grenade-blasts, we try to understand, even if the hard-boiled newsman in us entertain some doubts on the military's rather quick reaction.

If masiao financiers, coordinators, ushers keep getting arrested by the military, we try to understand why masiao goes merrily on as if nothing happened.

We in media do try to understand the military.

We hope the military tries to understand us who are in media.

CSO: 4200/7

DAVAO TERRORIST GRENADE KILLS WOMAN, HURTS 23

BMA Suspected

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 8 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Authorities investigating the Wednesday night grenade bombing along C. M. Recto street, Davao City which killed a woman vendor and wounded twenty three (23) others are looking into an angle that the grenade thrower was a member of the Bangsa Moro Army.

Only recently, the military arm of the Moro National Liberation Front was prominently mentioned in the Mandug incident which drove hundreds of residents to evacuate to the DDF Village. Barangay officials of Mandug have received threats from Muslims suspected as BMA members.

Some police investigating the grenade explosion incident at C. M. Recto suspected that the grenade was thrown where residents of Mandug are converging nightly while waiting for home transportation.

Metrodiscom sources, however, did not disclose the progress of their investigation.

Meanwhile, Col. Geronimo G. Valderrama condemned, as a dastardly and treacherous act, the lobbing of a grenade in the midst of innocent civilians along C. M. Recto street Wednesday night.

One woman was killed and 23 others wounded in that explosion which the Metrodiscommander said "could have only been done by a person with a sick mind."

Davao City has been rocked with grenade explosions since 1978 when the San Pedro Cathedral was bombed with three grenades. All the perpetrators of the Easter Sunday bombing had been accounted for.

Another blast occurred during the September 1983 fiesta celebration at Agdao where some 18 persons were killed and 83 others injured. Some of those injured included Councilors Tomas Monteverde, Jr., and Valentin Banzon.

Valderrama reiterated his appeal anew to city residents for public consciousness, involvement and awareness in the common task of preserving the peace in our community.

He urged the more responsible citizens of the community who may have some knowledge or contact with those responsible for this inhuman act to inform his office so that appropriate action can be taken.

The Metrodiscom fielded out its operatives to identify those responsible for the grenade explosion.--Bebe L. Berlanas

General Echeverria Comments

Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 7 Sep 84 pp 1, 9

[Text] Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria, commander of the Regional Unified Command XI (RUC XI) yesterday deplored the grenade bombing on C. M. Recto St., Wednesday evening.

Pointing an accusing at rebel terrorists, Gen. Echeverria called the incident a wretched and unforgivable act of atrocity which is a part of the rebels' terror campaign against hapless civilians.

Recom XI commander, Brig. Gen. Dionisio S. Tan Gatue, Jr., also condemned the incident, which killed one and injured 22 others, as one which showed the hand of the NPA which spares no one in its attempts at creating fear and chaos among the populace.

Both commands immediately dispatched their medical teams to assist the blast victims, some of whom are residents of Mandug which a few weeks back figures in the limelight in the wake of military operations against an armed group which terrorized residents there for a while.

Meanwhile, Echeverria and Tan Gatue issued a call to all sectors of the community to extend assistance in whatever form to the victims of typhoon "Nitang."

The RUC commander also directed the command's civil relations group headed by Lt. Col. Douglas O. Rosete to meet with Mnsgr. Antonio Ll. Mabutas to coordinate with the latter in the fund drive.

All contributions for "Nitang's" victims should be sent to the Office of Media Affairs (OMA), corner A. Quezon A. Bonifacio Sts., according to Col. Rosete. Other collection points will also be set up elsewhere in the city, he said.

CSO: 4200/7

TWELVE SOLDIERS SLAIN IN MISAMIS REBEL AMBUSH

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 10-16 Sep 84 p 3

[Text] Iligan City (PNA)--Twelve soldiers, part of a 55-man military convoy on the way to typhoon-ravaged Cebu to help in the rehabilitation work, were killed Saturday in an ambush by terrorists in the outskirts of Initao, Misamis Oriental.

Capt. Jose Balobalo, officer-in-charge of the 542nd Engineering Battalion based in Iligan City, said 15 of the soldiers and two civilians were critically wounded in the attack.

He said the convoy was on its way to Lumbia airport in Cagayan de Oro City when Communist New People's Army (NPA) terrorists opened fire at the group of Barangay Tubigon, some 47 kilometers from here.

Nine of the soldiers, including a captain, died on the spot while three others succumbed at the hospital late today, Balobalo said.

Reports reaching here identified the dead as Capt. Gerardo A. Magbanua, T/Sgt. Perfecto B. Ubongen, Sgt. Guillermo Falcunit, Sgt. Pedro A. dela Rosa, Pfc. Nestor Sabunod, Pfc. Felipe Bendigo, Pfc. Vicente Olivo, Pfc. Alberto Entrera and Pfc. Dixon Nolasco.

Those who died later in the hospital were S/Sgt. Fructuso Esteban, Pfc. Talib Mohamud and a trainee known only as Canonisado.

Balobalo identified the wounded as Maj. Antonio Santos, Pfc. Cordito Postrano, T/Sgt. Ruben Padua, Pfc. Juan Cabtalan, Pfc. Melchor Serana, Cpl. Petty Salih, Second Class Trainee Lamberto Perez, S/Sgt. Romeo Patrimonio, Second Class Trainee Roberto Labrador, Pfc. Alexander Maglacion, Cpl. Ricardo Baco, T/Sgt. Herminio Bedrano.

The wounded civilians were Charry Villaneuva and Mrs. Cabtalan, wife of Pfc. Cabtalan.

Balobalo said the soldiers were ordered by Army Commander Maj. Gen. Josephus Ramas to proceed to Cebu for the rehabilitation of typhoon-damaged infrastructure.

The soldiers were to take a Philippine Air Force C-130 flight at Lumban airport bound for Cebu.

Balobalo said one of the terrorists was killed in the firefight which lasted for one hour starting at 8 a. m.

But he said some members of the heavily armed terrorists could have been wounded as indicated by bloodstains in their escape route.

CSO: 4200/7

PHILIPPINES

THREE REBELS KILLED IN DAVAO DEL SUR ENCOUNTER

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 10-16 Sep 84 p 3

[Text] Three subversive terrorists were killed and several others believed wounded during a 30-minute firefight between government troops and a group of armed men, numbering about 20, in Brgy New Sibonga, Kiblawan, Davao del Sur, Monday last week.

Col. Laudemer Kahulugan, Davao del Sur Provincial Commander said that a joint PC/INP/CHDF team of the Padada and Kiblawan Police Stations led by Lt. Vicente Labiaga and Sgt. Quintin Mercedo encountered the armed group while on patrol in the vicinity.

A crossfire ensued, resulting to the death of three of the armed men and the wounding of several others, forcing the terrorists to flee through forestal areas, dragging their wounded companions with them. The three slain terrorists have remained unidentified up to presstime.

Recovered by the troopers from the scene of the encounter were two firearms--a .22 and a .38 caliber revolvers--subversive documents, teach-in materials, and a list of would be terrorist targets, counting among them PC and INP members. The names listed in the list was not however, divulged.

A PC/INP/CHDF team from Sulop, Davao del Sur, was dispatched by Kahulugan to track down the terrorists who fled toward the direction of Brgy New Cebu through hilly terrain.

CSO: 4200/7

TWELVE DIE IN NORTH COTABATO AMBUSH

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 10-16 Sep 84 pp 1, 7

[Article by Rudy Calansigin]

[Text] Kidapawan, North Cotabato--Twelve died, including five policemen, an assistant provincial warden, three civil security men, a driver of the town's water district system, a civilian and two dissidents, in an ambush by 60 heavily-armed men believed to be members of the New People's Army (NPA) at about 10:30 A. M. last Saturday, September 8, at Sitio 10, Barangay New Bohol, some 5 kilometers northwest of this capital town.

The fatalities were identified as P/Cpl. Fortunato Espadera, Pfc. Mario Pacheca, Patrolmen Elizardo Toledo, Andrew Gesulga, Alberto Gatan, all members of the Kidapawan police force; Ernesto Torrejos, Ceferino Canonio, Porferio Wamar, Jr., all members of the town's civil security force assigned as market guards; David Palmones, the assistant provincial jail warden, Rudy Negrillo, driver of the Widapawan Water District, and a civilian identified only as Jun Suico. All their firearms were taken by the dissidents. Their dead bodies are now in the funeral parlor.

Also killed were Pacente Acido, alias Comdr. "Beloy" of the dissident group and his unidentified companion.

Deputy police superientendent Major Leonardo T. Suan of the North Cotabato PC.INP command under PC Lt. Col. Roberto S. Cuyos, Jr., said the joint police and civil security force were dispatched to Barangay Balindong to track down unidentified men who carnapped a motorized pedicab. He said the team led by Cpl. Espadera only recovered the sidecar loaded it in their vehicle and was on the way back to the town proper when ambushed at Sitio 10, New Bohol, about 200 meters from the spot where the sidecar was recovered.

Major Suan said that the dissident first lobbed a grenade which exploded inside the team's vehicle and followed it with a volume of rifle fire. All the fatalities died on the spot.

Two members of the team, Patrolmen Pepe Juvelan and Reynaldo Empirado survived the grenade blast, jumped off the vehicle and fired back at the ambushers, killing Comdr. Beloy and the latter's still unidentified companion, Major Suan said.

Both Empirado and Juvelan escaped from the ambush scene taking different routes in going back to their headquarters in Kidapawan. Empirado arrived at the police headquarters first at 11:55 Saturday morning and reported the ambush incident. Juvelan arrived at 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon. Both survivors sustained serious injuries and are being hospitalized. Their conditions could not be ascertained up to presstime.

The water district vehicle, a World War II 3/4 truck vintage, used by the police in tracking down the carnapers of the pedicab was recovered only at about 3:35 P. M. yesterday, Sunday, together with the unidentified slain dissident. It was peppered with bullets from the engine hood to the driver's cab. The grenade blast turned the pedicab side car, loaded in the back, into twisted wreck with its debris mixing with human blood, brain particles and a blown human ear.

Col. Cuyos could not be contacted for comment on the ambush incident up to presstime.

CSO: 4200/7

NPA, MNLF HIT CHECKPOINTS IN SEPARATE RAIDS

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 11 Sep 84 pp 1, 16

[Article by Dol Onez]

[Text] One hundred fifty armed rebels believed to be members of the Bangsa Moro Army of the Moro National Liberation Front (BMA-MNLF) and the New People's Army (NPA) attacked two military checkpoints in Davao Oriental over the weekend, killing one policeman and wounding three constables and one paramilitary force member in two separate raids last Saturday and Sunday.

Military sources said that a band of 50 BMA-MNLF riding three Ford Fieras colored green and white, surprised checkpoint guards in sitio Punta Linao, Banaybanay, Davao Oriental at 6:00 in the evening last September 8, Saturday.

Upon reaching the checkpoint, the group opened fire, fatally hitting Corporal Jaime Andrada and wounding on the legs CIC Levi Laguatan.

The duo, however, did not retreat; instead, they returned fire using a caliber .30 submachine gun. After 200 rounds, unfortunately the sub-machine gun jammed.

Sensing it would be futile to fight it out with the patrol base guards, the group continued its way to Cuison logpond in sitio Mugbong Cogon, in Banaybanay where three pumpboats were waiting for the rebels.

A team led by M/Sgt. Felipe Villaflor managed to catch up with the fleeing band. The military group fought the rebels despite the superior firepower the raiders have.

Reports indicated that the BMA rebels used an M-79 grenade launcher but escaped after a 45 minute gunfight with the military.

The rebels fled on foot carrying some of their wounded comrades, while the military sustained one injured identified as CIC Emmanuel Martinez.

Brought by the rebels in their escape were Armalite rifle with 200 rounds and the caliber .30 sub-machine gun with 50 rounds.

Twelve hours later in Manikling, San Isidro, around 100 NPA rebels led by Commander Walter, strafed guards of a PC checkpoint.

Field sources showed that at 5:30 a. m., Sunday, September 9, a dump truck and Ford Fiera stopped about fifty meters away from the patrol base; the leader of the band even greeted the guards.

The guards, however, became suspicious when they saw that the group were bringing with them very high frequency (VHF) radios. Without delay, they started ensuing a fight which compelled the NPA to flee to the direction of barangays Macamao and San Roque where they took an Izusu pickup vehicle owned by a certain Roilo and another pick-up belonging to a Mr. Bote.

Wounded in the fight were CIC Levi Liguatan and CHDF Tasiado.

Reports indicated that the NPA rebels were able to cart away with them an Arma-lite rifle with 200 rounds before fleeing to the hills of Calapagan.

A confirmation check made with the provincial command the other day and yesterday did not reveal anything except that Major Daang, the provincial commander, could not be located for interview.

CSO: 4200/7

LOST COMMAND CAMP MASSACRED BY 'UNIFORMED ARMED MEN'

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 12 Sep 84 pp 1, 10

[Article by Chuck Villamor]

[Text] An undetermined number of armed men attacked the Lost Command camp in Tambis, Agusan del Sur last Wednesday, September 5, killing over 200 'renegade' soldiers, children, girls and other persons who were inside the camp at the time of massacre, a sketchy report said.

Although the military kept mum on the reported massacre, residents in the area said that the Lost Command camp, situated between San Francisco and Barobo in Surigao del Sur, was literally attacked by uniformed armed men in a 'precision combat formation.'

The report noted also that the Lost Command, caught flat-footed, were not able to sustain fire against the swarming enemies, but were instead mercilessly massacred, including all other persons who were inside the camp.

It was learned that military authorities in Agusan del Sur blamed the massacre on the New People's Army (NPA) although some other quarters advanced speculations that the rampaging attackers were also soldiers "as shown by the precision of their raid."

It was further learned that local funeral parlors in San Francisco and the vicinities are teemed with dead bodies which were hauled aboard a dump truck owned by a Davao businessman.

The report also noted that the machinegunner was hacked dead by the marauders.

Field reports gathered showed that earlier Lost Command members allegedly disarmed security guards under the NDC-Guthrie palm oil plantation in Agusan.

The Lost Command members reportedly extort money also from goldpanners and ask for retainers, or fees, from businessmen.

Col. Carlos Lademora, the alleged leader of the Lost Command, was spared from the massacre because he was informed beforehand that a bloody incident would happen inside his camp.

How the news was delivered to Lademora, and why he was the only person informed, were not mentioned in the sketchy report.

CSO: 4200/7

'ABUSIVE' PC UNIT PULLED OUT OF ISABELA, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

Quezon City ANG PANAYAGANG MALAYA in English 14 Sep 84 pp 1, 3

[Article by Edgar Cadagat]

[Text] BACOLOD CITY--Military authorities in Region VI have bowed to the popular clamor for the relief of the complaint-ridden 6th Provisional Company of the Philippine Constabulary assigned in Isabela town.

But in another Negros Occidental town, Sagay, soldiers of a detachment belonging to the 334th PC Company reportedly beat up a church activist whom they suspected of being a member of the New People's Army.

The 6th PC company was pulled out of Isabela and replaced by a unit of the 3rd Scout Rangers led by 1st Lt. Emmanuel Arroyo on orders of Brig. Gen. Isidoro de Guzman, commander of the Regional Unified Command VI.

The official explanation given by Negros Occidental PC provisional commander and Police Superintendent Arnulfo Obillos for the pullout was that the 6th PC Company was being transferred to Iloilo "for retraining."

But it is widely believed to have been an offshoot of protests from many sectors, including the media, against alleged abuses and atrocities during the unit's term of duty. These abuses, ranging from "salvagings" (summary executions) and other killings to maulings and arbitrary arrests, have been documented by a church group, the Task Force Detainees of the Philippines Bacolod unit.

The latest such case was the arrest of Jesse Saldua, a photographer, without a warrant by 18 PC soldiers who subsequently jumped on him from a table and beat him up. Saldua has fled from Isabela to escape a death threat from the soldiers, and is reported still suffering fainting spells and other injuries he sustained from the beating.

Another member of the 6th PC, a C2C Sayson, is reportedly involved in the attempt on the life of Vicente Convite, a local labor leader who was later killed in a shootout by members of the Special Police Action Team (SPAT).

It was also learned that after the "retraining," the 6th PC would not be returned to Isabela.

On the Magay mauling incident, Malaya learned that the victim, Pedring Lape, was in Baranggay Dalusan waiting for a ride to his home in Baranggay Bato when a group of PC soldiers led by a Lt. Linao offered him a ride.

But instead of being dropped home, he was taken to the PC detachment in Baranggay Bug-ang where he was badly mauled. His professions of his readiness to die for Christ allegedly further incensed the soldiers who subjected him to more severe fist blows, kicks, and clubbings with their rifles.

Lape, it was learned, had been "fingered" to the soldiers by an unknown informer as having in his possession pictures of the "Langoi Nine" massacre victims of Cauayan town.

Lape was subsequently released after the soldiers learned that he worked for one of the planters in the area, a certain Mayo Cueva. But he was warned "not to go with priests."

Later a church group in Sagay issued to Malaya a statement condemning the maltreatment of Lape as "evidence of the savagery of the supposed protectors of the people."

Deploring the "elusiveness of justice" in present Philippine society, the statement urged all church members to "be courageous and oppose all forms of oppression and exploitation."

CSO: 4200/14

SULTAN DIMAPORO DENIES MASSACRE REPORTS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Sep 84 p.8

[Text] Sultan Mohamad Ali Dimaporo, governor of Lanao del Sur, denied reports that more than 300 Muslims, mostly civilians, were "butchered" in a major military operation against MNLF rebels in the South which appeared in the Kuwait Times quoting certain Muslim opposition leaders as saying "Thousands of people fled to the nearby provinces" as suspected MNLF barrios were burned and looted.

Sultan Dimaporo, who at time was in Kuwait on an official visit, denied these reports and said there has been "no Muslim genocide in the Philippines." The Kuwait Times published the Philippine government's side the day after the report of the alleged killings.

Governor Dimaporo further stressed that since the signing of the Tripoli Agreement, the tension between the Muslims and Christians has considerably eased up and the peoples of both communities have started living harmoniously together. While admitting that the conflicts reached its bitterest stage at one time he nevertheless pointed out that no Muslim civilians were involved and that there has been no large-scale civilian evacuation as claimed.

CSO: 4200/14

COLUMNIST INTERVIEWS CHDF UNIT CHIEF ON REPUTATION

Quezon City VERITAS in English 16 Sep 84 p 6

[Article by Melinda Quintos de Jesus in "The Human Factor" column: "Dialogue With CHDF"]

[Text] In the countryside of Davao as in many parts of rural Philippines, the current struggle tearing at the heart of communities may be perceived simply as the battle between government and insurgency, between the forces of authority and subversion. Translated in concrete terms, there is the military on one hand and the NPA on the other.

But the people who are caught in the crossfire and their responses to these forces throw off easy analyses. In understanding the social and political conflicts that cleave the nation in turmoil, the pieces of the puzzle do not always fall in place. The observer must be conscious of these "parts" that do not fit and thus render the larger picture in shades of gray, not in the clarity of black or white.

Like this man in his early thirties who is introduced by the barangay captain of a small barrio lying in the outskirts of the city. The information boxes him neatly into a niche in our mental file. Someone later adds that he is also the commander of the local CHDF unit (Civil Home Defense Force), the paramilitary arm that has earned for itself a degree of notoriety in its dealings with the people.

But the man **has** also been a devoted church worker for many years and that he had to resign as parish council president when he was elected barangay officer.

Why, we have to ask him, is he involved with the CHDF, and our tone indicates our puzzlement at the irreconcilable elements of the roles he plays. We tell him that for most journalists the CHDF has become a bad word, the bad guys in the countless reports about military activities in the provinces. He nods and smiles.

Were you pressured to command the CHDF in the barrio?

"I decided on my own. It was something I felt I had to do. The NPAs had begun to make their presence felt in stronger ways. And I believe, am convinced that the NPA because of their ideology, would destroy us, our faith, our freedom of worship, our way of life, the values we have been taught by our religion."

But how can a Christian like you be involved in the activities of the CHDF?

"Our activities here are limited to a show of force, to effect a counter-presence, to neutralize their impact on the community. I would never allow my unit to engage in killing and salvaging. Our encounters are designed only to maintain order, if necessary to capture, but not to kill."

What has caused the NPA to gain strength in Davao?

"I would say, the abuses of the military, the loss of livelihood. The NPA presents some options to people who suffer hardship in life."

What is the situation now in this barrio?

"The NPA is no longer as active here. They have moved to the city. There are no military troops around, only two men are stationed here. The CHDF has been disciplined. I have fired my men for drunkenness."

Are you hopeful Davao will find peace?

"With prayer, with the guidance of the church leaders and government, with livelihood for the people, yes."

Perhaps then, perhaps, if people were left to themselves, to follow the natural initiatives and inclinations of the human community, they can slowly work out peace and eventually heal the wounds of this hidden war.

CSO: 4200/14

RECOVERY OF DAVAO DEL SUR VALLEY CLAIMED

Davao City THE MINDANAO MIRROR-BULLETIN in English 10-16 Sep 84 pp 3, 6

[Article by Satur P. Apoyon]

[Text] Kapatagan, Digos, Davao del Sur, (PNA)--Kapatagan, a barangay at the eastern foot of the fabled Mount Apo almost lost to the Communist infiltrators, is now a regained valley of 16,000 peasants from various parts of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

This seemed to be the conclusion of Brig. Gen. Jaime C. Echeverria, commander of the Regional Unified Command (RUC) for southeastern Mindanao, as he descended from one of two PAF helicopters one pleasant morning last August to strengthen further a relation between the duly constituted authorities and the barangay folk.

The visit of the RUC chief could have been done simply without so much fanfare. Echeverria was only to say "yes" to the people for the retention of the two teams of the "Charlie" company of the 27th Infantry Battalion in the village for their "permanent" security force.

Only last month in Digos proper, Echeverria approved the stay of the army teams in this highland valley community of 6,000 feet above sea level during a demonstration rally held by the same villagers.

But Juanito Morales, a former Army soldier and now barangay captain of the barangay beleaguered by Communist terrorists in the past three years, told the General he should come and assure the people right at their doorsteps.

In festive mood, the village folk came rushing to the community stage grounds to meet the party of the General composed of Col. Laudemer Kahulugan, Davao del Sur PC/INP chief, RUC junior officers, AFP Civil Relations Service (CRS) staff and a few government media men. Most of the welcomers here brandishing placards of welcome to the general.

"Here I come to your lovely place. Now you are liberated. Let us help one another and this place of yours will become a land of plenty in the near future," Echeverria summed up his greetings the village people during a noonday speech as part of the literary-musical program.

A pass-in-review by the cadets of a barangay high school preceded the speech of the General which dealt on people's support to the duly constituted authorities and condemnation of Communism as threat to their existence.

Saturated by Communist terrorists in the latter part of 1980, Kapatagan became a Communist mass base the next two or three years.

"With the timely arrival of Army teams in December 1981, the Communist insurgency was somewhat checked by our men," said Lt. Alberto Dinopol, commander of the "Charlie" company of the 27th IB.

"However, the dirty work was done by my detachment commander T/Sgt. Expedito Ramay, a civilian military relations oriented officer," Dinopol added.

"It took me a year to convince the people to go back to the fold of the law," Ramay said.

A Cebuano, Ramay did not have any difficulty in dealing with the people.

Soon a good understanding between the military and the villages blossomed gradually. When the army detachment was about to be transferred last month, the people of Kapatagan went down en masse to the town proper some 36 Kms. away to demonstrate for the retention of their "liberators."

On that fateful day--Aug. 25--The Philippine flag flew high again in this valley community only two days away by hiking from the highest peak of the country which lords over the west from here.

Echoing a McArthurian famous line, Echeverria vowed to the crowd as he boarded his chopper back to the city and said: "I shall return here to discuss village defense with you."--(PNA)

CSO: 4200/7

COMMENTARY ON ASEAN NUCLEAR FREE PROPOSAL, TIES WITH U.S.

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Sep 84 p 6

[Commentary by Apolonio Batalla: "ASTAN & Nuclear Arms"]

[Text] It was reported that senior officials of the members of Asean agreed in principle, after three days of talks in Kuala Lumpur, to a nuclear weapons free zone for Southeast Asia under which the United States and the Soviet Union would eventually be asked not to bring in nuclear weapons into the area.

That Asean should have come to such an agreement is not surprising. More than a decade ago, the members agreed on a declaration to make the Asean region a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality.

The purpose has not been fulfilled because while there is peace and freedom in the region, neutrality remains a dream. For one thing, the Philippines is not "neutral"; it is a staunch ally of the United States.

While a few other members are affiliated with the non-aligned movement, they are, however, inclined toward the west.

It will take a country like the Philippines many years to cast off its alliance with the US, if at all. But while that alliance grates against the declaration, it is convenient for the whole of Asean, because the American presence in the Philippine bases is impliedly a shield that covers the Asean region.

Probably, a nuclear weapons free zone is easier attained than a zone of peace, freedom, and neutrality for the simple reason that all members of Asean dread the presence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories.

It does not need much proof to show that the existence of nuclear weapons in a particular territory is temptation to a nuclear attack from outside the territory.

On the other hand, it would not make sense for a nuclear power to launch a nuclear attack against a nation that does not possess nuclear weapons.

That is the prevailing logic in Japan, whose nuclear-weapons policy is governed by the three N's--non-entry, non-possession, and non-manufacture of nuclear weapons.

That policy was undoubtedly shaped by the fact that Japan was the victim of a nuclear attack, the only victim.

In the Philippines, nobody can tell if there are nuclear weapons in the bases. American authorities are mum on the subject, which is the official policy. On the other hand, the Philippine government does not press the question.

It must have been the considered view of the American government that to talk one way or the other might constitute a strategic error.

An admission that there are nuclear-tipped missiles in the bases might raise an outcry from the host country, and that would affect American use of the bases.

On the other hand, a denial would not diminish the chances of a Soviet nuclear attack on the bases, since in the event of a nuclear war all territories of an enemy are fair game, especially the military bases.

In view of the studied silence of the US government on the subject, the attainment of a true nuclear weapons free zone is more difficult than initially imagined.

Nonetheless, it is important that an agreement in principle be made, that the sentiment of a peace-loving group of developing nations be expressed.

It could influence the thinking of the leaders and peoples in Indochina, not to say those of China, the US, and the Soviet Union. It could strengthen the determination of many countries to seek the reduction and eventual dismantling of the nuclear armories of the superpowers.

The superpowers are hostage to the nuclear momentum and their best efforts to date to reduce the manufacture and deployment of nuclear weapons have not succeeded.

It will take more than the two superpowers to reduce their arsenals and to draw the world farther from the danger of a nuclear exchange.

The Asean agreement in principle may be appreciated in that light.

CSO: 4200/14

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH UNION MEMBERSHIP

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 15 Aug 84 pp 1, 4

[Text] The development of Youth Union membership is an important link in the work of strengthening and building the Youth Union organization into a firm and mighty one.

Only by regularly admitting into the Youth Union young people with revolutionary zeal, fired by idealism and possessing a high level of awareness, can the Youth organization get strengthened both qualitatively and quantitatively, get enough strength to shoulder the tasks of a revolutionary vanguard force, and perform well its function as the communist school of our youth while getting ready a powerful force to complement the Party.

The two-year recapitulative conference on the distribution of Youth Union membership cards during 1982-1984 has clearly pointed out that the development of Youth Union membership in the last few years has not been adequate attention and that the rate of membership development in the armed forces is still low. The units that did best in this area such as Military Region 1, the Tay Nguyen corps and the air defense service have only reached the proportion of 37 percent of the existing non-Youth Union members; as for the other units, the average proportion is even lower, reaching only 15 to 20 percent of the total number. At the present time the military draft brings into the army every year a number of new recruits a relatively large number of whom are non-Youth Union members. In many localities, this number of youths reaches 50 percent of the total number of young people in the units. These are figures that remind us that we need to pay more attention to the work of developing Youth Union membership within the basic units at the present time.

The education of youth so that they have objectives in life, ideals, and ascertain clearly their responsibilities, and the inculcation of correct motives for joining the Youth Union constitute a link of the first importance. It is only when they are correctly motivated that the youths become loyal to the Youth Union, ascertain clearly their determination and responsibilities, struggle with enthusiasm, make effort to train themselves and constantly wish to become members of the communist youth union. A very large number of the youth in our army have the conditions necessary for struggling to become Youth Union members. That

is why in order for all youths to be correctly motivated in aspiring to become Youth Union members, the work of inculcation, training and education of youth must be given the utmost attention by the Youth Union organization, its leadership and the unit commanders. As far as the Youth Union organizations are concerned, the inculcation and education work must be carried out through lively and appealing forms of activity that can attract the youths and get them to participate enthusiastically. As far as the leadership and the unit commanders are concerned, the training and education of youth so that they can join the Youth Union must be expressed in affectionate concerns, in much solicitude and in extreme attention given to each thought and each action by the youths that need encouragement. The sincerity and closeness of the cadres and Party members as they guide our young people not only help them to find determination in struggling to become Youth Union members, they can help them see clearly the future struggle to become Party members as well.

It is because every echelon and everyone is concerned with educating and inculcating correct motives for our youths to join the Youth Union that in many units all the young people are eager to struggle to become Youth Union members. A number of young people who were hurriedly admitted into the Union before joining the army have found that they are not yet deserving of being Youth Union members, and they have on their own asked to withdraw from the Youth Union so as to struggle to become real Youth Union members, in the full and noble sense of that term.

After two years of evaluation and review of the Union membership distribution process, it has been found that next to the majority of Youth Union members who are fully qualified there still remain a relatively high proportion of those who have not qualified after review and evaluation. The number of weak Youth Union organizations which did not qualify for membership card distribution are found to be at different degrees but they can be found in any unit. While we continue to review and evaluate the Youth Union membership card distribution in the localities that remain, the new orientation should be that the Youth Union membership cards be issued only at the same time as the ceremony for admission into the Youth Union. The actual situation as well as the new orientation for distributing Youth Union membership cards in the days to come both point to the importance of the need to raise the quality of Youth Union membership admission.

The supplemental education and training of youths concerning the objectives and ideals of the revolution and concerning the motives to join the Youth Union must always be closely linked to the testing of each individual in the unit with regard to his everyday performance and task completion. One must create every opportunity for the young people to do something good, give them the opportunity to show their strengths and weaknesses, and no matter where the unit may be or what the circumstances of the situation are one must look at the effectiveness of the results to review and evaluate the struggle level of each individual.

One must pay attention to the quality of admission. The Youth Union does not merely stop at the stage of testing and consider it over once the individual has been admitted; even after each person has been admitted into the Youth Union the unit commander and the unit's Youth Union organization must all the more do well the task of educating, training and giving them supplemental guidance so that all Youth Union members constantly keep up with their noble name and perform well their responsibilities.

A strong Youth Union organization, a Youth Union structure consisting of cadres with a high sense of responsibility and good capabilities, and concerned leaders and commanders are the fundamental conditions for implementing well the development of Youth Union membership. It is for that reason that in order to do well this work of Youth Union membership development in the units at the present time, next to the adequate attention given to inculcation and education of our youth, the base organizations of the Youth Union must rapidly stabilize and perfect the structure of Youth Union cadres at various echelons and reform their operating methods to attract and admit into the Union more and more outstanding young people, thus building themselves into strong Youth Union organizations that deserve to be the assault force in every task of the units in which they are.

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CSO: 4209/453

- END -